

THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

THE WEEKLY EDITION OF THE NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

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CONTENTS.

LEADING ARTICLES—

The Admission of Chinese to the United States	1333
SUMMARY OF NEWS	1334 1377

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—

Some Municipal Matters	1341
Wounded Men in the Present War	1311
The Conservancy of the Huangpu	1342
The Restlessness in Russia	1342
The Past History of the Horse	1344
Russian Sailors in the Matchless	1371
The Rignetta Case	1377

OUTPORTS, ETC.—

Chinanfu	1345
Chinkiang	1345
Nganlufo, Hupeh	1345
Ningpo	1346
Peking	1346
Pochou, Anhui	1346
Tientsin	1381
Yung'pingfu	1347
Yunnan	1348
Japan	1348
India	1350
London	1351

MEETINGS—

The Municipal Council	1353
Masonic	1381

REPORT—

The Serak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.	1355
--	------

AMUSEMENTS—

The Deutscher Konzert Verein	1356
Concert at the Royal Asiatic Society's Hall	1357

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL—

The Shanghai Football Club v. Engineers' Football Club	1357
The Shanghai Football Club "A" Team v. Nondescripts	1357
The Shanghai Recreation Club v. H. M. S. Iphigenia	1357

RUGBY FOOTBALL—

The Shanghai Rugby Football Club v. The Shanghai Rowing Club	1357
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SHOOTING—

Saturday's Paper Hunt	1357
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SHOOTING—

"B" Co., S. V. C.	1357
Mounted Infantry	1358

CORRESPONDENCE—

The C. I. P. O.	1358
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MISCELLANEOUS—

Imperial Decrees	1358, 1381
Notes on Native Affairs	1359, 1382
Calendars, Etc., Received	1362, 1382
Fatality at the Old Dock	1362
The sailings at Ningpo and Shanghai	1363
The Japanese Problem in Formosa	1363
The Chinese Tract Society	1366
The Weihaiwei Gold Mining Co.	1382
Dastardly Outrage by Russian Sailors	1382
After Many Days!	1383
The Russian Soldier in China	1387
Yunnanfu to the Coast—II, III, IV	1387
General Orloff	1384
Malcontents	1384

LAW REPORTS—

H. B. M. Civil Summary Courts—	
Mrs. M. J. Roberts v. C. McArthur	1371
H. B. M. Police Courts—	
R. v. H. M. Best	1371
Harrison v. Longstaff and Tate	1372
R. v. Thomas MacKenzie	1384
U. S. Consular Courts—	
Ze-Lay v. Montrose K. Newman	1373
Lee Yuen-hersch v. M. K. Newman	1373
Moller Brothers v. S. E. Schwartz and S. Zimmerman	1384
Inquest—	
Re Death of Alfred Whooley	1385
The Mixed Courts—	
Sundry Cases	1373

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND

WEEKLY SUMMARY	
Market Reports	1389
SUPPLEMENT—	
Share Quotations, Etc.	1

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, FRIDAY, 16 DEC., 1904.

THE ADMISSION OF CHINESE TO THE UNITED STATES.

FROM a letter from the well-known American journalist Mr. William E. Curtis, recently received, we gather that during the last three months there has been a radical change in the attitude of the U. S. Administration towards Chinese students; and any genuine student will be admitted promptly into any port of the United States as soon as he shows a genuine certificate. If the new treaty dealing with Chinese immigration into the U. S. is ratified, students, merchants, and tourists will be examined before leaving China, and if their certificates are not satisfactory, they will not be allowed to go aboard a vessel. If they are satisfactory, no further questions will be asked. It is proposed to transfer all inspection to the point of embarkation instead of the port of arrival, a decidedly sensible thing to do. It is well that the numerous students who are contemplating going abroad to study, remembering that "homekeeping youth have ever homely wits," and who are hesitating between Japan, the United States, and Europe, deterred from the United States by the stories of the ill-treatment to which many perfectly respectable and well-to-do Chinese have been subjected in San Francisco, should know that a beneficent change is in contemplation.

The Chinese Exclusion Treaty having expired by effluxion of time, the Chinese Minister to the U. S., Sir Chéntung Liang, and Mr. Secretary Hay are negotiating a new treaty, which is discussed at length in a letter written by Mr. Curtis, who was recently investigating the question in China, from Washington

to the "Chicago Record-Herald." The negotiations for a new treaty, he says, have so far advanced that we may expect it to be submitted for the ratification of the Senate as soon as Congress meets in December. The new treaty will be quite as strict and even more so than the present one, so far as it affects the exclusion of coolie labour.

—no American Administration can afford to offend the Californian Labour Unions,—"but it will be more liberal in the provisions which relate to students, merchants, and travellers from China." Mr. Curtis admits that "until recently the people of China have been treated as if it were a crime to seek an education in the United States, or to travel in this country, or to attempt to trade here;" but there has been a change for the better since the transfer of the immigration bureau from the Treasury Department to the new Department of Commerce and Labour. Formerly the law was administered by the Collector of Customs at San Francisco, who used it entirely as a political instrument to impress the Labour Unions, "but certain agencies were able to secure the admittance of Chinese immigrants whenever it was to their advantage." The Collector "excluded enough applicants to make a record and admitted those who had a 'pull.'" When the Collector and his inspectors were charged with brutality towards respectable Chinese who endeavoured, armed with the necessary certificates, to land at San Francisco, they answered "that the Exclusion Law was intended to exclude, and that they considered it their duty to find reasons for the exclusion of as many Chinese as possible. Even Attorney-General Knox took that ground, and in an opinion furnished the Secretary of the Treasury by him Feb. 11, 1902, in the case of a man who was prohibited from returning to his wife, child, and business in this country, he said:—

"I must find, however, that under the peculiar nature and language of these laws, it is not possible to recognise the appeal to considerations of elementary justice and humanity (even if well-founded), or to bring the case within the scope of an act executive clemency." The Chinese

exclusion laws are necessarily rigorous, and of the highest degree of technicality, and do not permit the imposition of maxims of equity.

"It is needless to say," adds Mr. Curtis, "that this is a contemptible attitude for a great Christian nation to take concerning its relations with a heathen people."

We have no space, nor is it necessary, to recount the numerous instances of ill-treatment of intending immigrants cited by Mr. Curtis. He goes on to explain the changes in the law which it is proposed to make. In future, Chinese officials, teachers, students, merchants, or travellers for pleasure or curiosity will be permitted to enter the U. S. if they have obtained the permission of their own Government, such permission to be certified to "by the Diplomatic representative of the U. S. in the country, or of the Consular representative of the United States at the port or place, from which the person named therein comes." This certificate shall contain a full description and particulars of the holder that he may be properly identified. Under the old regulation a student could only be admitted if he expressed his intention "to pursue some of the higher branches of study, or learn some particular profession or occupation, for which facilities are not afforded in his own country." Under this regulation the Collector at San Francisco sent back to Shanghai the son of a leading Chinese Merchant in Shanghai, who was intending to study in the States. He told the Collector that he wanted to learn English. "If you want to learn English," said the Collector, "go to England!" and sent him back here. Mr. Curtis now tells us that:—

"Secretary Cortelyou has modified that regulation, so that now any person showing evidence of an intention to seek an education may come in, provided he has certificates properly made out, and signed by the Taotai, or mayor of the city in which he resides at home, and the United States Consul at the port from which he sails. It is especially important that these certificates be made out exactly as the law requires, for a great deal of the trouble and annoyance complained of has been due to carelessness, or technical defects, which the immigration officials cannot overlook. A certificate signed by the Emperor of China would be worthless, because the law does not recognise him as competent in such cases, and his certificate would not be accepted."

Mr. Curtis explains that all the trouble Miss Luella Minor had with the two young Chinese she took home to be educated was due to a disregard of this technicality. Their certificates were signed by H. E.

Li Hung-chang himself, but the collector at San Francisco knew nothing officially of the Viceroy; the law said the certificates were to be signed by the Taotai and the Consul, and nothing else would satisfy him.

A step in the right direction has been taken, but it is only a step; some day, perhaps, California will recognise that she loses more by the exclusion of Chinese labour than China does.

Summary of News.

THE German mail of the 8th of November arrived here on Monday, the 12th instant, per N.-D. L. S. Seydlitz.

THE Canadian Pacific mail of the 14th of November arrived here on Wednesday, the 14th instant, per R. M. S. Athenian.

THE U. S. mail of the 17th ultimo arrived here last night by the P. M. S. Manchuria.

A MAIL leaves to-morrow for Europe by the N.-D. L. S. Prinz Eitel Friedrich.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS
Service of Foreign and Local Telegrams.

THE WAR.

THE SIEGE OF PORT ARTHUR.

Tokio, 9th December.

In the operations subsequent to the attack on 203-metre hill, one lieutenant-colonel, one major, three captains, eight lieutenants, fourteen sub-lieutenants, and nine sergeant-majors were killed, and fifty-eight officers wounded, including four majors.—*Our own correspondent.*

Later.

The newspapers show unmixed joy at the successes at Port Arthur. Since the capture of the 203-metre hill the range-finding has been decidedly more effective, the gunners working as coolly as if they were engaged in manoeuvres. The annihilation of the destroyers and transports will follow ere long.—*Our own correspondent.*

Later.

The strength of the besieged is now believed to be between six and seven thousand.—*Our own correspondent.*

Later.

The operations against the north-eastern forts are proceeding satisfactorily.—*Our own correspondent.*

12th December.

General Nogi reports that the bombardment of inner Port Arthur on Sunday did serious damage to the

Poltava, the Amur, and the wireless telegraph station on Golden Hill. The Arsenal was set on fire.

According to the Naval Staff, four battleships, two cruisers, a gunboat, and a torpedo storeship are badly crippled, and a further baptism of fire is unnecessary.—*Our own correspondent.*

We have to thank the Consul-General for Japan for the following official report:—

Tokio, 12th December.

The Port Arthur army reports:—The bombardment on the 11th inst. inflicted considerable damage on the wireless telegraph station at the foot of Golden Hill and set the Arsenal on fire.

13th December.

Casualties since last reported include fifteen officers killed and seventy-eight wounded.—*Our own correspondent.*

Later.

Since the capture of the 203-metre hill, the localisation of the Russian troops on Taiyangkou, Itzeshan, and Antz-shan is distinctly to be made out. The sailors were formerly used in the reserve, but they are now largely serving the Russian batteries, owing to the large number of casualties among the soldiers, who are now seemingly intended for the counter-attacks and charges.—*Our own correspondent.*

Later.

The weather has been bad at Port Arthur lately, with an occasional blizzard.—*Our own correspondent.*

Later.

There is reason to believe that further offensive installations have been made on 203-metre hill.

The bombardment was resumed on Monday morning on the New Town, and a conflagration ensued.—*Our own correspondent.*

Chefoo, 14th December.

It is reported that the besiegers resumed the general attack on Port Arthur yesterday.—*Our own correspondent.*

THE RUSSIAN PORT ARTHUR SQUADRON.

Tokio, 9th December.

It is officially reported that, exclusive of small boats, the Pallada received eight effective hits on Thursday. She was on fire and listing to port, with her stern slightly sunk. She is *hors de combat*.

The Gilyak was found on shore on the north side of the Peresviet. She received eleven hits, and is *hors de combat*.

The Byan received twenty-two hits and is on fire.

The effect of the subsequent fire on the Sebastopol and transports is not ascertained.

The Amur received fourteen effective hits on Thursday.

Thirty-six shells struck south-east of Peiyushan, doing heavy damage

to the buildings in the vicinity and the arsenal.—*Our own correspondent.*

10th December.

It is officially announced that five shells hit the Pobieda on Friday, and seven the Bayan, which was on fire, inclined at an angle of 25 degrees, and nearly capsizing.

The Poltava is submerged at flood tide up to her turret and upper deck.

The Pallada is inclined considerably to port and the Pobieda to starboard, both exposing their sides below the water line, and having a part of their upper decks submerged at flood tide.

The Peresviet is submerged up to her stern walk aft and torpedo tube forward.

The Gilyak is lying south of Peiyushan, inclined 20 degrees, and resting on the bottom.

The Sebastopol steamed outside at dawn, probably to avoid the Japanese fire.—*Our own correspondent.*

London, 10th December.

The telegrams describing the battering of the Port Arthur fleet have been suppressed at St. Petersburg.—*Exclusive service.*

Tokio, 12th December.

The newspapers here point out the trickery of the Russians, referring to their mooring the Sebastopol and the destroyers, in order to avoid the Japanese fire, among the so-called hospital ships flying the Red Cross flag, and the papers urge the adoption of drastic measures.—*Our own correspondent.*

13th December.

The battleship Sebastopol is moored about three miles off the harbour mouth to the south-west of Mantoushan.—*Our own correspondent.*

*. Mantoushan is on the west side of the mouth of the harbour at Port Arthur.—*Ed.*

London via Bombay, 14th December.

The publication of the news of the destruction of the Port Arthur fleet, hitherto unknown except to a small circle, has created a feeling of consternation in Russia.

Admiral Rozhdiestvensky's mission is now regarded as doomed to disaster.—*Reuter.*

THE COMING ARMADA.

London via Bombay, 9th December.

The third Russian squadron starts in January.—*Reuter.*

14th December.

Admiral Rozhdiestvensky, with twenty-one vessels of the Baltic squadron, has arrived at Mossamedes.—*Reuter.*

*. Mossamedes is a port in Portuguese West Africa in about 15° S. Lat.

London, 14th December.

The Russian destroyer Prontseliny has entered Vigo damaged.—*Exclusive service.*

KUROPATKIN DEFEATED AGAIN.

Peking, 11th December.

The Russian army is in retreat to the south bank of the Hunho, after a severe battle lasting three days and nights.

On the fourth day the Japanese assumed the offensive.

The Russian army has been rapidly repairing the losses it sustained in the battle of the Shaho, but had not yet completed its preparations.

At the Mukden station all is confusion.

The fresh casualties of the Russians are counted in thousands.—*Our own correspondent.*

Tokio, 12th December.

Attacks were made by the Russians on several of the Japanese positions on the Shaho on the 10th inst. and they were all repulsed without loss to the Japanese.—*Our own correspondent.*

ANOTHER JAPANESE CRUISER LOST.

Tokio, 10th December.

It is announced that thirty-eight officers and men were killed in the blockading in force of Port Arthur on the 30th ult., including Captain Tajima, Engineer Nakane, and two sub-lieutenants.—*Our own correspondent.*

Later.

The cruiser Saiyen sank on the 30th ult. after striking a mechanical mine, while co-operating with the army, and engaged in the blockading in force. The commander, fifteen officers, and 175 men were rescued; Captain Tajima and thirty-eight others were killed.—*Our own correspondent.*

*. The Saiyen, formerly the Tsien, was a protected cruiser of 2,320 tons' displacement and 15 knots' speed, taken from the Chinese at Weihaiwei by the Japanese in February 1895. She was built at Stettin in 1886, her armament consisting of 13 guns and 4 torpedo tubes.—*Ed.*

JAPAN'S WAR FUNDS.

Tokio, 10th December.

The conference between the Cabinet and the representatives of the Seiyukai and Progressive parties, in reference to the Budget and other important Bills, which was originally fixed for the seventh inst., came off at 4 p.m. yesterday (Friday) and lasted until 1 a.m., when an understanding was reached. The revenue contemplated in the ministerial programme will be reduced by ten million yen, which will be replaced by new resources proposed by the two above-named parties, affecting the Customs among other things.—*Our own correspondent.*

THE CZAR AND H.M.S. TALBOT.

London via Bombay, 10th December.

The Czar has presented a silver bowl and ladle to the wardroom

officers of H.M.S. Talbot, in friendly recognition of the assistance given to the crews of the Varyag and Koréetz at Chemulpo.

H. M. has also given a cheque for £500 to the Prince of Wales as President of the Royal Naval Fund.—*Reuter.*

A NORTH SEA CULPRIT IN TROUBLE.

London, 10th December.

The Russian Ministry of Marine has ordered Captain Klado fifteen days' arrest for his articles in the "Novoye Vremya" assailing the Russian naval administration.—*Exclusive service.*

THE PREPARATIONS FOR WINTER.

Tokio, 13th December.

The supply of winter clothes to the Japanese troops at the front is ideally complete, non-combatants being included.—*Our own correspondent.*

COREA TRYING HER TROOPS.

A DANGEROUS RESOLVE.

Tokio, 13th December.

It is reported that the Korean Government has decided to dispatch three battalions to Hamyong province for the purpose of clearing it of Russians and realising the value of the national defences.—*Our own correspondent.*

GENERAL NEWS.

THE ADMISSION OF JAPANESE TO AUSTRALIA.

London via Bombay, 9th December.

Mr. Bruce Smith's amendment in the Australian Parliament relative to the immigration of Japanese has been indefinitely deferred.—*Reuter.*

TURKEY OUT OF TROUBLE.

London via Bombay, 9th December.

Turkey has yielded to Austria's demands and the incident is regarded as closed.—*Reuter.*

JAPAN WILL GO TO THE HAGUE.

London via Bombay, 9th December.

It is announced at Washington that Japan has accepted President Roosevelt's invitation to the Hague conference, provided that its decisions are not to affect the present war.—*Reuter.*

THE DISLIKE TO ESPIONAGE IN FRANCE.

London, 9th December.

The French Cabinet yesterday secured a majority of only two in the discussion on the Government's informing methods in connection with the estimates for the Ministry of Justice.—*Exclusive service.*

A "MELANCHOLY" ENDING.*London, 9th December.*

M. Syveton, the Deputy who assailed General André, the Minister of War, in the French Chamber, has been found dead in his study, asphyxiated by gas.—*Exclusive service.*

KING EDWARD'S COMING HOLIDAY.*London via Bombay, 10th December.*

It is announced at Portsmouth that the King will start for a cruise in the Mediterranean early in February.—*Reuter.*

PROTECTION IN THE U. S.*London via Bombay, 10th December.*

The revision of the American tariff is practically shelved until next autumn.—*Reuter.*

THE SOCIALISTS IN GERMANY.*London via Bombay, 10th December.*

In the Reichstag, in the debate on the Budget and the Army Bills, the Socialists opposed any increase in the army on the ground that Russia is crippled.

They renewed their charges against the German Government of partiality towards Russia in the present war.

Count Bülow deprecated sentimental views of delicate questions of international policy such as caused people to take the wrong road in the South African war.

He asserted Germany's complete neutrality, and ridiculed the suggestion that there was a secret treaty between Russia and Germany.

The more, he said, the Press and the Socialists attacked Russia, the more must he exert himself to keep German relations with Russia peaceful and friendly. It was impossible to ignore the fact that there are undercurrents in Europe impelling the Powers towards warlike complications. Germany is now as ever the bulwark of peace, but solely because of her strength.—*Reuter.*

SIR JOHN FISHER'S NAVAL REFORMS.*London via Bombay, 11th December.*

The Admiralty announce an important reorganisation of the navy with the object of remedying certain defects of mobilisation.

The Home Fleet will henceforward be called the Channel Fleet, and becomes the senior command in the navy. It will consist of twelve battleships and a proportionate number of cruisers.

The present Channel Fleet will henceforward be called the Atlantic Fleet, with its base at Gibraltar. It will consist of eight battleships with a proportionate number of cruisers.

The other squadrons will be divided into three groups:—

(1) The Eastern, including China, Australia, and the East Indies.

(2) The Western, including North America and the West Indies.

(3) The Cape, forming a connecting link between the others.

There are to be three cruiser squadrons, Channel, Atlantic, and Mediterranean, detachable for special cruises.—*Reuter.*

12th December.

Henceforth the entire fleet in reserve will remain constantly in commission and ready for immediate service, exercising at sea periodically.

There will be manœuvres in 1905 and 1906 by the navy throughout the world. It will be assumed that war has broken out, all the reserves mobilising, and proceeding under Rear-Admirals to reinforce the fleets to which they are affiliated.

The Flag Officers everywhere will have to act on their own initiative, arranging for mutual co-operation, all reference to the Admiralty for instructions being forbidden.—*Reuter.*

London, 12th December.

The Admiralty has issued a circular to Commanding Officers, explaining the changes which will come into force on the 1st of January next.

The Fleet will be divided in peace time into a fleet in commission at sea, and a fleet in commission in reserve.

As all commissions are to be for two years, half the fleet in commission at sea will be relieved annually.

Twelve battleships and cruisers kept at the home ports will be commissioned for emergencies, independently of the general mobilisation.—*Exclusive service.*

14th December.

It is understood that as a result of the reorganisation scheme, thirty cruisers, three battleships, and seventeen gunboats, condemned as obsolete, will be withdrawn from the navy.

The overhauling of the dockyard system will be the next reform to be undertaken.—*Exclusive service.*

RESTLESSNESS IN RUSSIA.*London via Bombay, 12th December.*

There was rioting at St. Petersburg on Sunday, organised by the revolutionary socialists, not by the liberal reformers.

Another demonstration is expected on Tuesday, when the trial of the assassin of Mr. von Plehve begins.—*Reuter.*

London, 12th December.

There has been serious rioting at St. Petersburg.

The students of both sexes assembled, shouting "Down with the Aristocracy," and "Stop the War." They were charged by the police, and a struggle ensued.

The correspondent of the "Standard" at St. Petersburg wires that a high Court official whom he had interviewed stated that the rioting at St. Petersburg was not in com-

pared to the condition of things in the provinces, where, besides the excesses of the reservists at Vitebsk, the peasantry elsewhere are revolting, as in the governments of Ekaterinoslav, Kazan, and Saratoff.

The high official added that the Court is anxious concerning the issue. A tremendous struggle is going on between Count von Mirski, the new Minister of the Interior, who is bent on reforms, and the reactionary Grand Dukes, and it is believed that Count Mirski will win.—*Exclusive service.*

London via Bombay, 13th December.

At St. Petersburg a crowd of students re-assembled yesterday with the intention of renewing Sunday's disturbances; but dispersed on the approach of the police.—*Reuter.*

ANOTHER BOND OF PEACE.*London via Bombay, 13th December.*

The Anglo-American Arbitration Treaty was signed at Washington yesterday.—*Reuter.*

A COLOURED QUARREL ON THE RAND.*London via Bombay 13th December.*

The Chinese yesterday attacked the Kaffirs at the Witwatersrand Mine. The casualties were four killed and thirty-three wounded.—*Reuter.*

THE FREE KIRK AND THE WEE KIRK.**CUTTING THE GORDIAN KNOT.***London via Bombay, 13th December.*

A Royal Commission in connection with the dispute between the two Scottish Churches has been appointed, consisting of the Earl of Elgin, Viceroy of India 1894-99, Lord Kinnear, Judge of the Court of Session, Scotland, and Sir Ralph William Anstruther, Bart., Lt.-Col. Commandant 6th Volunteer Battalion the Black Watch.—*Reuter.*

THE SANGUINENESS OF MAJOR YOUNGHUSBAND.*London, 13th December.*

Major Younghusband stated in the course of an interview that there is every prospect of a thriving trade between India and Tibet, as the Tibetans are a nation of shopkeepers.

He was happy to say that the recent mission to Lhasa had left behind it no traces of racial animosity.—*Exclusive service.*

THE PARLIAMENTARY TROUBLE IN HUNGARY.*London via Bombay, 14th December.*

In view of the resolve of the Premier, Count Tisza, to introduce a new procedure against obstruction, the Opposition Deputies entered the House before the hour of meeting, smashed the presidential dais, the tables, and the ministerial seats into atoms, and drove out the custodians

with the legs of the tables, wounding four of them. In consequence of this, no sitting could be held.—*Reuter.*

THE FRANCO-SIAMESE CONVENTION AT WORK.

London via Bombay, 14th December.

As a consequence of the Franco-Siamese Convention, Siam has appointed M. Padoux, of the French Consular Service, as legal adviser, and Colonel Goullet to the command of the native militia in the provinces of Patabang and Siemrap.—*Reuter.*

THE SENTENCE ON THE MURDERERS OF MR. VON PLEHVE.

London, 14th December.

Sas-onoff, the murderer of Mr. Von Plehve, and his accomplice Sikorski have been sentenced to penal servitude, the former for life and the latter for twenty years.—*Exclusive service.*

IMPERIAL AUDIENCE.

Peking, 1th December.

His Imperial Majesty the Emperor granted audience this morning to the Grand Council, and to Tsêng Kuang-ch'uan, Chinese Minister-designate to Corea, and to Chü Chêng, an expectant Taotai of Anhui province.—*Special telegram.*

JAPANESE OFFICIAL REPORTS.

We have to thank the Consul-General for Japau for the following official telegrams:—

Tokio 8th December.

The Commander of the Naval Artillery reports:—Thursday, 3.30 p.m. The actual state of the Russian ships is as follows:—Peresviet sunk to sternwalk; Poltava, Retvisan. Pobieda all sunk to upper deck; Pallada heeling to the portside; Bayan taking fire; Sevastopol alongside crane East Harbour invisible except the masts. The bombardment on Thursday was principally directed to the three latter.

The naval staff with the Port Arthur Army reports on Thursday evening:—The Pallada taking fire heeled to port with her stern down. Eleven shots also told on the Gilyak. The Bayan, taking fire at 11.30 a.m., was still ablaze 4.15 p.m.

The Commander of Naval Artillery reports:—The Amur on Thursday was hit by fourteen shots, stern sunk. Many shots greatly damaged godowns and other buildings near Pehyushan and arsenal.

KOMURA.

Tokio, 10th December.

The Commander of Naval Artillery reports: Friday, 8.50 p.m. The bombardment on Friday set fire to the Bayan, which heeled to port twenty-five degrees, nearly capsizing. The Retvisan and Poltava submerge in high tide up to the upper deck below the conning-tower. The Pallada and Pobieda heel considerably to port and starboard respectively, exposing the hull below the waterline and in high tide part of upper deck is washed. The Peresviet submerges in high tide up to the sternwalk at the stern and the torpedo tube at the bow. The Gilyak is close to the shore, listing considerably and

believed to be resting on the bottom. The Sevastopol at dawn on Friday removed anchorage to the outer roadstead, presumably to escape our shells.

Later.

The Commander of the Third Squadron reports:—

The cruiser Saiyen (1,344 tons), while engaged in cooperating with the Army in the blockade near Port Arthur on the 30th November, hit a Russian mechanical mine and sank. The complement was saved, except 38, including Captain Tajima.

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE

"OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD."

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Special Cable Service of "Der

Ostasiatische Lloyd."

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

Berlin, 8th December.

The new German commercial treaties will be laid before the Reichstag in January. The Government hopes to have by that time closed the seventh treaty also, namely the one with Austria-ungary.

The "Morning Post" reports that Cardiff merchants have chartered twenty colliers to Chinese ports for account of Japan.

The German collier "Kapitan Menzell" has been voluntarily recalled from Cardiff by her owners. There are no differences between Great Britain and Germany about the coal question. No diplomatic negotiations whatever have taken place on the question. The German Government declines to take an international risk for private delivery of coal to Russia.

The Czar has signed the Mobilisation Order for the third squadron.

9th December.

The preliminary signing of the German-British commercial treaty will probably take place early next week.

The third Russian squadron, which will leave for the Far East in January, consists of four battleships and eight other vessels.

10th December.

The main position of the Witbois has been stormed by the German troops. The enemy has retired eastward in wild disorder.

Chancellor Count Bülow in the Reichstag laid great stress upon the perfect loyalty of German neutrality towards Russia. There was no reason for another friendly Power to justify its complaints. Count Bülow stated again that there was no secret treaty between Germany and Russia.

London naval experts declare that the journey of the Baltic squadron becomes objectless after the Port Arthur squadron has been destroyed. They predict that the Baltic squadron will be disbanded in some neutral port.

The shipbuilding firm of Nease and Levy, of Philadelphia, has become bankrupt.

12th December.

The Vienna "Neue Freie Presse" reports that in London a formal plan of mediation has been worked out in case that Port Arthur is taken.

The "Standard" states that the Argentine Minister of Foreign Affairs has announced that the Argentine has sold no war-ships to the belligerents, observing the strictest neutrality.

Chancellor Count Bülow has announced that if the Herreros wish to surrender and to ask for peace, provision has been made that they can avail themselves of the mediation of the Barmen Mission.

Friedrich Hammacher, the well-known National-Liberal politician, is dead, aged eighty years.

NEWS FROM EAST ASIA.

Peking, 8th December.

Mr. Uchida, the Japanese Minister, will leave to-morrow for Japan, in order to confer with the Tokio Government.

The following telegrams are from the "Kobe Herald":—

London, 2nd December.

The programme drawn up by the United States Naval Construction Board has been endorsed. Among the vessels to be built are three battleships, five cruisers, three gunboats, and a flotilla of twelve torpedo craft.

A Belgian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce has been established at Brussels, with an agency at Shanghai. One hundred and fifty members have already been obtained.—"Mainichi."

4th December.

There is a pessimistic feeling at St. Petersburg with regard to Port Arthur. The prospects of the Baltic Squadron in the event of the fall of the fortress also occasion anxiety.

The Government of Ceylon has prohibited the supply of coal at Colombo without special permission.

The military success of Japan is causing a perceptible diminution of Russian prestige in Persia.

Russia is mobilising three hundred thousand reservists. They are to join the colours in the course of December.

The Russian newspapers acrimoniously contest Turkey's right to close the Dardanelles against the Black Sea Fleet. The Anglo-Japanese Alliance alone prevents an attempt to force the passage. Russia expects that France and Germany will support her claims in this matter against Great Britain.—"Mainichi."

Peking, 4th December.

The Russian Minister at Peking is at present very active. He is, in particular, earnestly engaged in securing the support of Chinese officials for the Russian cause. He is asserting that the facilities allowed to the Baltic Squadron for its voyage to the Far East indicate that a secret understanding is in existence between Russia, Germany, and France. In consequence of his statements, several high officials are said to have made representations to the Dowager Empress of a character very favourable to Russia. Chinese diplomacy accordingly shows appreciable signs of a change of view.—"Mainichi."

Vienna, 5th December.

The French Government has sent an answer to the representations made by the Japanese Government. It is to the effect that France will not allow the Baltic Squadron to use any French port as a rendezvous.—"Mainichi."

London, 6th December.

The British Government has commenced a prosecution of Messrs. Yarrow, the shipbuilders, with regard to the sale of a torpedo-boat to Russia and its navigation to Liban under the pretence that it was a private yacht. The case begins on Monday. It is believed that this action is the result of Japanese representations.—"Mainichi."

Washington, 6th December.

President Roosevelt has delivered his message to Congress. In the course of this he severely criticised Russia's policy. The United States, he said, could not repress a sentiment of horror at the massacre at Kishineff, and must also consider that the action of the Russian authorities in prohibiting the issue of

passports to Jews who were American subjects was very unjust. The Russian Government apparently intended to curtail the rights of Jews in every way they could, and the result naturally was that all the Jews in Russia were deeply incensed. The President then alluded to the United States navy, the development of which, he remarked, called for the attention of the Government. Much had been learnt from the present war as to naval strategy, the fighting efficiency of warships, and questions of administration. Destroyers and quick armoured cruisers, added the President, are extremely necessary, but battleships must be the first consideration. With regard to the Philippines, the United States must retain the supreme control until the inhabitants have made the progress in civilisation which has already been attained in Cuba.—"Mainichi."

London, 7th December.

The British Government has informed the Russian authorities that Great Britain will never allow the passage of the Black Sea Fleet through the Dardanelles.—"Asahi."

General Kuropatkin has now 1,860 guns. During November, ten fortress guns were sent to Mukden from Sebastopol.—"Kobe Shimbun."

Berlin, 7th December.

The rumour that Russia intends to send a third Pacific Squadron to the Far East has been contradicted from St. Petersburg.—"Mainichi."

Peking, 7th December.

As reported on several occasions, large numbers of mounted bandits, employed by the Russians, are actively engaged in commandeering horses, sheep, pigs, wheat, millet, etc., for the Russians in Mongolia. Being unable any longer to endure the barbarous conduct of the Russian auxiliaries, several Mongolian Chiefs have applied for help to the Chinese authorities at the Zahho, who at once dispatched troops to subdue the bandits, and applied to the Military Department at Peking for instructions. According to the Mongolian chieftains, the bandits, being in Russian costumes, cannot be easily distinguished from the Russians.—"Mainichi."

A "Mainichi" telegram from Seoul dated December 8th, states that a Japanese detachment attacked about two hundred Russians—Infantry and Cavalry—at Tongcheung (about 3 ri north of Pingdingshan) on the 6th inst. and drove them away. When retreating, the enemy left six dead bodies, twenty-two rifles, four swords, five hundred cartridges, thirty-four overcoats, three horses, and many other things behind them.

The following telegrams are from the "Hongkong Daily Press":—

London, 6th December.

Cotton has dropped a penny on the Liverpool market.

Sinnett Roche (Yarrow) has been summoned to appear at Bow Street.

A serious mutiny is reported in the case of the Black Sea Fleet. There are also bread riots throughout Russia.

It is reported that only Great Britain offers opposition to Russian warships leaving the Black Sea.

Manila, 7th December.

A concerted attempt to escape from the Bilibid Penitentiary was made to-day by five hundred short-term prisoners. The attempt was attended by great violence, and much bloodshed.

The prisoners made a united rush upon the blacksmiths engaged in the prison premises, overpowered them, and secured

their tools. With these, they made an attack upon the main gates.

Before they could get to work on the fastenings, the guards in the gate-tower, armed with a Gatling gun, opened fire, and other warders hastening up with shot guns, the mutineers were soon overpowered. Fifteen of them were killed outright, and 37 wounded; the majority of the latter not being expected to recover.

Some such plot had been anticipated for a week, the bearing of the prisoners having undergone a significant change since the recent outbreak at the military prison on Malahi Island, when a number of prisoners captured a Government launch and escaped in it.

London, 8th December.

The financial returns of the American Government show a deficit of \$41,770,571. The estimated revenue for 1905 is \$700,472,060; the expenditure \$718,472,060.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

1904.				
	Fahr. Thermometer.		Rainfall	
	Min.	Max.	in inches.	
Dec. 9	49° 8	66° 0	.....	
" 10	50° 0	69° 6	.....	
" 11	51° 7	52° 6	.....	0.10
" 12	42° 3	44° 0	.....	0.71
" 13	39° 5	46° 6	.....	0.26
" 14	39° 0	47° 1	.....	
" 15	36° 0	52° 4	.....	
1903.				
	Fahr. Thermometer.		Rainfall	
	Min.	Max.	in inches.	
Dec. 9	43° 0	61° 1	.....	
" 10	37° 0	58° 3	.....	
" 11	36° 8	56° 1	.....	
" 12	38° 5	51° 4	.....	
" 13	48° 0	60° 9	.....	
" 14	53° 5	70° 6	.....	0.2
" 15	50° 8	51° 4	.....	

As a supplement to this issue we publish a map to illustrate Mr. Archibald Little's description of his recent trip from "Yunnanfu to the Coast," of which another instalment also appears.

MR. P. F. LAYERS, who came down from Weihaiwei in H. M. S. Leviathan but could not get ashore here owing to the bad weather, made a record trip to Hongkong and back. The Leviathan left the Fairway Buoy on Wednesday, the 30th ult., arriving at Hongkong on Friday the 2nd inst., making a run of 48 hours. Mr. Layers was 20 hours in Hongkong, leaving there in the P. M. S. China on Saturday, the 3rd instant, and arriving at Woosung on Monday evening, the 5th instant, the run being 56 hours.

DURING the absence of Major Watson on leave, Major Brodie Clarke is in command of the S. V. C.

A MARRIAGE took place at the Cathedral on Saturday between Charles Arthur Howard, youngest son of Mr. W. H. Howard, Chief Tidesurveyor, I. M. C., Kiukiang, and Miss Rose Lavinia Alsford-Sanders of Shanghai. The Rev. A. J. Walker officiated. The bridegroom's sister acted as bridesmaid, Mr. H. J. Parkhill was best man, and the bride was given away by Mr. W. Carter. A reception at Kalee was afterwards held by Mrs. Clarke, at which a large number of friends attended. The Cathedral was tastefully decorated with flowers and bamboos.

At 11 a.m. on Sunday the fire brigade was called out to a small fire in an alleyway off Ningpo Road. The police discovered the outbreak and the Mih-hoongs were the first to reach the scene of the blaze. They and the Victorias

were the only companies to put on streams. The fire was caused by some joss-paper igniting the wall of a small house. This house was practically destroyed and two others were slightly damaged. None of them were insured. Within twenty minutes of the alarm being given the trucks had all left for their respective stations.

THE bodies of two Chinese boys were recovered from the débris of the Hankow Road fire last Friday morning. They were not, as was reported from native sources, attempting to rescue the old man who was burnt, but were suffocated in No. 141, Hankow Road, where the fire started. It appears that the fire was caused by a youth, who was trimming a lamp, upsetting it. He called to his companions to come downstairs and they did so, but seeing that the house was on fire they returned to their rooms to get their clothes. The fire burnt so rapidly that they were suffocated before they could make their escape. The old man succumbed in No. 138, Hankow Road.

THE 107th performance of the A.D.C. will take place at the Lyceum Theatre on Monday, the 19th inst., when "My Soldier Boy" will be presented. There will be a second performance on Wednesday, the 21st inst.

THE Union Church Literary and Social Guild had a most successful social evening in the Church Hall on Wednesday. The guests on their arrival were sorted into groups of ten by means of disjointed phrases from advertisements and then each group was given a number of advertisements, with the names obliterated, to solve. This task was enlivened by songs and music, and eventually a representative from each group was called upon to make a speech. After refreshments had been served the prizes in the competition were presented and then charades, representing Bird's custard powder were acted. Altogether a most mirthful evening was spent and passed all too soon.

THE offertory for the Chinese Tract Society at the Cathedral on Sunday amounted to nearly \$140.

THE annual meeting of the Society for the Diffusion of Christian and General Knowledge among the Chinese was held at the Royal Asiatic Society's rooms on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. H. B. Morse presided and a most interesting report was presented. It lays considerable stress on the possible danger to the Society from the fact that a general impression seems to be gaining ground that Japanese civilisation is better for China than that of Christendom, dwells on the new movements and societies making for restlessness in China, and urges that what the Western Powers cannot do by force they will be able to do by education. The number of pages of new books and reprints of the Society last year totalled up to 30,681,800, more than 5,000,000 in excess of the number of the year before.

FROM the quarterly report of the Mercantile Marine Service Association to hand we learn that the quarterly meeting discussed among other things the lighting of the Red Sea, and the appointment of a Select Committee of the House of Commons to consider the question of Mariners' votes. In the course of a speech Captain Trenery remarked: "One of the most important items in their Report was that of the Employment Bureau, which afforded very serious reasons for full consideration, that was that there were greater demands for officers than there were officers to fill the positions. This condition of things was very good indeed for officers who wanted ships, but

it was an indication that the number of men who were being trained as officers was falling off, and that was a very serious question indeed for this country. They always regarded the decrease in the number of British seamen on British ships as a very serious matter, but he thought that when British ships had not only to be partly manned by foreign seamen, but had to go to foreigners for officers to command the ships, it was very much more serious than that British ships should be partially manned by foreign seamen. He was sure their hearts had been moved within them at the thought that the British captains and officers who had been in command of the Japanese transport ships had never once failed in their duty, not even when they had to offer their lives, but had stuck to their duty and had gone down with their ships. But why there should be a scarcity of British officers he did not know. They would think in the present bad times, when ships were larger and fewer than formerly, that the facts would be all the other way, but it was not so, as their record showed, and as the record of the Mercantile Marine Service Association showed."

The actual area of ground sold to Messrs. Whiteaway, Laidlaw & Co. at the corner of Nanking and Szechuen Roads is 2 mow 7 fun, and the price £11,000 per mow, which at the rate of exchange at the date of the sale is equal to Tls. 85,000 per mow, the assessed value, as we said before, being Tls. 27,500 per mow.

THE Nanking Road is more and more justifying its claim to be the Oxford Street of Shanghai. A new and large store is soon to confront the rapidly rising walls of the Fuhlee Emporium, and meanwhile Messrs. Liebe, Wulff & Co. have opened a handsome shop nearer the Bund, where a fine display of winter and holiday goods and tempting confections is to be seen. If we only had the wide pavements of Oxford St., instead of the narrow or no footpaths reserved by the Council for pedestrians, Nanking Road would be as favourite a promenade as its prototype is.

At the Nanking Road jetty, at noon last Friday, Messrs. Noel, Murray and Co. offered for sale the teak house-boat Waitangi. Bidding commenced at Tls. 150 and rose by increases of Tls. 5 to Tls. 195, at which figure Mr. C. H. Erskine became the purchaser.

At noon on Saturday, at the Nanking Road jetty, Messrs. L. Moore and Co. offered for sale by auction the house-boat Brema. The boat is in excellent condition, the frames being of iron specially imported from Home and the planking of solid well-seasoned teak. There was a good attendance and bidding was brisk. The first offer was Tls. 500 and this was gradually increased until Tls. 1,450 was reached, at which figure Mr. J. A. Wattie became the purchaser.

MESSRS. HOPKINS, DUNN & Co. offered for sale by auction on Wednesday the wreck of the lorcha Kiangcheng, as she lies sunk off the Chang Wah Kong, Tung-chow, together with her gear and the remaining cargo. The lorcha fetched Tls. 960; 3,000 cases of kerosene oil Tls. 440, and 300 tons of coal Tls. 25.

AN auction sale which aroused unusual interest was held by Messrs. Noel, Murray and Co., Ltd., at the Nanking Road Jetty at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday. The property offered for sale consisted of a large and powerful steam launch, the Fushun, constructed about two years ago and in

excellent condition and repair; a large Tsungming junk; or semi-foreign house-boat; a smaller junk; and a hulk fitted as an office boat. These boats were formerly the property of the notorious criminal Vah Kah-der, whom for some time past the police have been making every endeavour to capture. Though they failed to catch the criminal himself, the Police had in recent raids been able to seize the boats above-mentioned, and by order of the Mixed Court they were declared confiscated and ordered to be sold by auction. The steam launch was first offered and from a first offer of Tls. 3,000 the bidding rose by hundreds and fifties to Tls. 4,200, at which figure the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company became the purchasers. The hulk was next offered and elicited bids increasing from Tls. 50 to Tls. 105, becoming the property of a Chinese purchaser at the last mentioned figure. The small junk opened at Tls. 30 and the bidding rose to Tls. 110, a Chinese again being the purchaser. The Tsungming junk brought keen competition among the Chinese who crowded the pontoon, and from the initial bid of Tls. 150 increases of fives and tens brought the purchase price to Tls. 345, the purchaser in this case also being a native. The junks realised fairly good prices, but the steam launch certainly sold for less than its value, the reason probably being that the Chinese were afraid to purchase so long as Vah Kah-der is still at large.

We understand that the I.-C. S. P. Petchili was sold on the 9th for £7,000 net to a foreign syndicate, presumably for blockade-running purposes.

We have been asked to publish the following as being of special interest to residents in the East:—

The term "fever" embraces so many illnesses, from our familiar mumps, influenza, and pneumonia to typhus, enteric, and yellow fever, that a book such as the *Manual of Fever Nursing*, shortly to be issued by Messrs. Kegan Paul, of Dryden House, is equally valuable in Great Britain or in the Colonies. It is written by Reynold Webb Wilcox, a professor of medicine with a large hospital experience, and deals exhaustively with fevers, their causes and symptoms, and their treatment in accordance with the present state of practice. The complete but easily understood directions for nursing, and the clinical charts suitable for different cases make this an invaluable handbook for nurses.

A most sensational escape was effected from the new Municipal Gaol on Saturday night. The convict who has the proud record of being the first to get out of this gaol was a man who was undergoing a term of five years for kidnapping. He got out of the cell by a key made out of a ricksha-wheel spoke, gained the roof by the aid of a pole which he dragged up after him, descended from the roof in the same way and, unobserved by the warder on watch, got to the wall. Here a rope seems to have been thrown to him by a confederate and he got safely over. Although active search is being made for the man he has so far evaded capture.

CARL Seitz was summoned at the U. S. Consulate on Tuesday for driving his motor without having a number plate in a conspicuous place. P. S. Roach stated that he saw the car in Soochow Road without a number, and that he enquired for the owner. Defendant stated that it was a new car and that this was the first time he had taken it out. Directly the matter was pointed out to him he went home and affixed the

plate. Inspector Kinipple stated that it was most important the regulation concerning the number plate should be carried out. On consideration, his Honour let defendant off with a caution as it was his first time out and his first offence.

At the U. S. Consular Court on Monday Mr. Goodnow refused the application of the counsel for defendants in the Boyd v. American China Development Co. suit, to allow certain paragraphs to be added to their petition for leave to appeal, on the ground that leave to appeal had been refused.

Two seamen from the S. V. Inca were brought up at the U. S. Consular Court on Tuesday charged with refusing duty. The Captain complained that the men had been most insubordinate while the ship had been here. One of the accused complained about his treatment on board. His Honour ordered accused to be put on board and kept in irons until the ship sailed, unless they could be paid off and taken over by their respective Consuls.

The case in which Chee Yu-zee is charged with obtaining by fraud the sum of \$1,100 from a female complainant on the 27th August, 1904, and in which the defendant was alleged to have obtained the money by stating that it was for the purpose of bribing the Magistrate and runners of the Court, came up for hearing at the Mixed Court on Saturday morning, before Mr. Twyman (British Assessor) and Mr. Kuan Chun, formerly Assistant Magistrate, and now interpreter to the Taotai. Mr. C. R. Holcomb appeared for the prosecution and Mr. Symonds (Messrs. Drummond, White-Cooper and Phillips) was for the defence. Mr. Symonds applied for an adjournment, as Mr. Morgan Phillips, who had charge of the case, was away at Hankow. The case was accordingly remanded until a date to be fixed by the Taotai, who, the Court said, had to make a report on the case to higher authorities.

THE Mixed Court should have sat at ten o'clock on Tuesday morning but it was a quarter to eleven when Assistant Magistrate Sun and Dr. S. P. Barchet, the U. S. Assessor, took their seats on the bench. The first and really important case of the sitting was one that has now dragged its weary length along for eight months. At the beginning of May, 1904, three river thieves were charged with being concerned together in stealing two bales of American sheeting, value Tls. 220, and disposing of same to a receiver in Anhui. One of the men then gave evidence that the sheeting had been disposed of to a shopkeeper in Anhui whose name and description he gave. Runners were sent to arrest the shopkeeper, but the mandarin of that district took the matter into his own hands and sent a report to the Mixed Court that he had investigated the matter, that the shopkeeper admitted having received the sheeting, and that its value would be forwarded to the Mixed Court in due course. Then the prisoner who had given evidence against the shopkeeper died in gaol, and another of the prisoners escaped from a hospital where he was lying sick. The mandarin at Anhui never forwarded the value of the sheeting, so at last, after eight months, the shopkeeper was arrested and put on trial on Tuesday. The witness against him being dead, the shopkeeper yesterday denied all knowledge of the sheeting, and there was of course now no evidence to adduce.—The Court decided to fine the shopkeeper \$40, not for receiving stolen property, but for not having attended the Court sooner. \$20 of that

sum was ordered to be given to the native complainant and \$20 to a native refugee. The sole remaining prisoner, who has been in prison for eight months, was allowed to go free after receiving 100 blows.

THE German gunboat Tiger left Shanghai on Sunday.

THE German cruiser Thetis arrived here from Chinkiang on Wednesday.

THE Portuguese cruiser Adamastor left Shanghai for Hongkong on Sunday.

THE P. and O. S. Malta, with the London mail of the 18th ultimo, left Singapore at 1 p.m. on Sunday, the 11th inst. for Shanghai.

THE N.-D. L. S. Roon, with the German mail of the 8th ultimo, left Colombo for Hongkong and Shanghai at noon on the 10th instant.

THE P. & O. intermediate str. Malacca arrived in London on the 10th instant.

THE str. Oanfa, Pinguey, and Suevia arrived home on the 12th instant.

THE str. Crusader passed the Suez Canal homewards on the 12th instant.

THE str. Bayern, Palma, Persia, and Dunearn passed the Suez Canal outwards on the 12th instant.

THE R. M. S. Empress of India arrived at Vancouver at 7 a.m. on Thursday.

THE C. N. S. Taiwan brought up from Hongkong 37,693 copper ingots and 4,408 pigs of lead.

THE str. Canton left Shanghai last Friday evening, ostensibly for Hongkong. Her cargo consisted of machine oil, gunny bags, champagne, and galvanised iron.

THE str. Sual, which arrived here on Tuesday from the River ports, reports that she met with a heavy N.-W. gale, with rain and snow, on the 11th and 12th inst.

THE C. M. S. Kiangyung, which arrived here from River ports on Wednesday, reports: H. M. S. Snipe at Kiukiang; the U. S. gunboat Elcano at Wuhu. The C. M. S. Irene was ashore at Bate Point; the German cruiser Thetis tried to tow her off, but failed.

WEDNESDAY'S issue of the "Eastern Sketch" has a charming drawing by "H. H." on the front page, and this well-known artist contributes a very telling cartoon, the title of which is "The S. M. C. and the Consular Body," with plenty of body, and opposite it two humorous sketches of local events. He has another full-page cartoon in which the actors are a doctor and a small boy. The lady is a trifle out of drawing in the cartoon on page 10, but her appearance is a sufficient indication of the strength of Mumm. "Ata Local Fire" is crude, but amusing; and no one could regret an expenditure of 20 cents on this vigorous and artistic little paper.

MESSRS. Fearon, Daniel and Co., agents here for the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, inform us that they are in receipt of a telegram from the Hongkong agency advising them that the P. M. S. Manchuria will not call at Shanghai and Honolulu on her homeward voyage.

WE have received from Messrs. Denniston and Sullivan, the agents, No. 8 of "The Japan-Russia War," an illustrated monthly record, published by the Tanuma Publishing Co., of Yokohama and Tokio. It is not so ambitious as one of its contemporaries, but it is equally well-written, and contains a large number of excellent collotypes, plans, and charts, with a very striking two-page coloured Japanese print, "Pursuit." There is an amusing series of thumb-nail sketches, with the title

"Russian Devices," and the whole number, which contains 69 pages, will be found very interesting reading.

MESSRS. FEARON, DANIEL AND CO., agents here for the Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company, inform us that they are in receipt of a telegram from the Hongkong agency to the effect that the O. & O. S. Doric will sail from that port on the 17th instant. She will be dispatched from here for San Francisco, via the usual ports of call, on the 21st instant.

MR. N. E. B. EZRA, Hon. Secretary of the Shanghai Zionist Association, has sent us a copy of the late Dr. Theodor Herzl's famous pamphlet, "A Jewish State," wherein he propounded his great scheme for the repatriation of his people. The pamphlet has now been reprinted by the Maccabean Publishing Company of New York, and the text, which has been revised from the English translation of Miss Sylvie d'Avigdor, has a special preface and notes by Mr. J. de Haas. There is a portrait of Dr. Herzl, taken amid surroundings which make a picture in themselves. Mr. Ezra has a few copies of the pamphlet for disposal at \$1 Mexican. In his original preface, the author was at pains to "guard my scheme from being treated as Utopian by superficial critics." The fact that Zionism is in the number of practical causes on Saturday proves how well the great organiser, whose death is lamented by many outside the Jewish persuasion, had combined shrewd business common-sense with a glowing enthusiasm and a noble aspiration. It was only in 1896 that "A Jewish State" was published. On Saturday there are Zionist Associations wherever Jews are to be found, and there can be no question that the idea has taken a firm hold on the reason as well as on the imagination of this long-suffering race. Much has been done in those eight years. Politically the Governments of the great European Powers have been won to sympathetic attitudes; the Sultan of Turkey, interested as the present ruler of Palestine, sent frequently for Dr. Herzl. But a greater achievement still is indicated in the following lines from Mr. de Haas's preface: "The 'bent back' of the Jew grew straight in the presence of the Jewish flag; a new poetry and a new prosody, deep with the feelings that stir a people, have arisen; a school of young artists have given themselves over to the creation of a Jewish art; others have planned an international Jewish university; a cultural movement—combated for the time being by the more orthodox—has spread so strongly as sometimes to shake the main movement from its true centre; the Hebrew tongue has found need and occasion to blossom into a living language. . . . A distracted and divided people have been so well instructed in the thought that the unity of Israel is greater than all the differing religious, social, economic, and political views of the individuals, who make up a nation, that the Rabbis of Eastern Europe have entered in full force into the vanguard of the movement."

THE Statistical Department of the Customs makes the following interesting announcement:—"Some ten years ago the Imperial Customs issued a volume of Decennial Reports covering the period 1882 to 1891, reviewing the trade at each port during the ten years' period and giving a general statistical and descriptive account of the district served by each port. This issue is now out of print, but within a few days will appear the first volume of the second issue of

the Decennial Reports, covering the period 1892 to 1901, and including the Northern and Yangtze ports, beginning with Newchwang and ending with Soochow. The first issue contained contributions from twenty-three Chinese ports, with 694 pages of text and forty-eight maps and diagrams. The forthcoming volume will contain contributions from fourteen ports of North and Mid-China, with 557 pages of text and thirty-four maps and diagrams; and South China from Hangehow to Yatung will be described in a second volume of equal size, to appear next year. The book will contain both interesting and instructive reading for the Christmas holidays, with some left over for the Chinese New Year, and it is provided with an index. The first volume will be sold at \$12 in paper uncut edges, and at \$15 bound in half-basil, and may be obtained after the 17th instant at Shanghai from Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., and from Max Noessler & Co."

WE have to thank the Statistical Department of the Customs for a copy of the Customs Gazette for the third quarter of the present year. The returns show a decided revival of trade, the total revenue collected during the quarter comparing as follows with the same quarter in 1903, in Haikuan taels:—

	1904.	1903.
Chinese Ports.....	7,989,271	7,585,655
Kowloon and Lappa.	160,943	170,834
Lunghow, et.	59,161	42,557

Total...8,209,375 7,799,046
The gain of Tls. 400,000 is quite satisfactory. Shanghai had a large share in producing this result, the revenue collected here this year being Hk. Tls. 2,560,628 against Hk. Tls. 2,199,668 in the same quarter of 1903.

WE have received from the Statistical Department of the I. M. Customs a most interesting quarto pamphlet, entitled "An Inquiry into the Commercial Liabilities and Assets of China in International Trade." We have also to acknowledge receipt of the Fourteenth Annual Report of the Mission among the Higher Classes in China (the International Institute); also, the Twentieth Annual Report of the Royal Jamaica Society of Agriculture and Commerce and Merchants' Exchange, published at Jamaica by the Colonial Publishing Co., Ltd.

THE first number has reached us of a new monthly journal for the home, "The World and his Wife." It is really a magazine of 64 pages, in a pretty cover in colours designed by Lewis Baumer, and it measures 16½ by 11½ inches. In its contents it is a genuine miscellany of excellent reading, admirably and prettily illustrated. A few of the leading articles may be mentioned. There is an excellent official account of the progress of the Queen Victoria Memorial opposite Buckingham Palace, and the new Processional Way in St. James's Park, with the first published picture of the grand triumphal arch in Trafalgar Square. The Life of the Lady Mayoress of London, Shooting, the Presidential Election in the U. S., the November Exodus from London, the Pearl from Colombo to Bond St., Walmer Castle, the Life-story of a Pheasant, the World's Hundred Rarest Stamps; all these and many other interesting topics are treated in this number, nor are the world of fashion and the serious side of things forgotten. There is a coloured supplement for the children, and there are many complete stories by popular writers, and the first instalment of a humorous story by J. Keble Howard. It is a marvellous sixpennyworth.

Miscellaneous Articles.

SOME MUNICIPAL MATTERS.

12th December.

THERE are one or two points which may be mentioned as addenda to our recent article on the Alhambra case. As we have already mentioned, some documents representing the views of the Spanish Consul and the counsel for Moses Schwartz were sent round to the Press by the U. S. Consul-General after our article appeared. We have not reprinted them, as they contain no new facts, but we may mention that they include the Spanish Consul's memorandum to the Consular Body which the Chairman of the Council referred to in his letter to Mr. Goodnow of the 9th of November. In that letter, it will be remembered, he asked Mr. Goodnow to supply him with a copy of the memorandum, but unsuccessfully. This disposes of the charge that has been hinted that the Council suppressed this memorandum. We also learn that the Committee of the Consular Body were under the impression that the Council had suppressed Mr. Castillo's letter of the 8th of October, the three Consuls-General having all omitted to notice it when perusing the printed minutes, in which it was duly included.

Passing to other matters, it will be seen with satisfaction that the question of the Yangkingpang is to be left alone until after the forthcoming ratepayers' annual meeting. When we wrote on this subject on the 24th ultimo, we had excellent authority for believing that the French Council would not agree to the sluice-gate proposal, which our Council wished to take immediate steps to carry into effect. On the 25th of November, however, the Secretary of the French Council wrote that sluice-gating could only afford temporary relief, that the question of culverting must come up again on grounds of public health, and that the French "Council therefore regrets that the question should not be solved in the only practical manner, that is to say, by covering the Yangkingpang with a culvert." That looks conclusive enough, and then the Secretary makes a complete *volte face*, the next sentence in his letter being: "From a report of the French Municipal Engineer, it appears that the system of cleansing of which the Municipal Engineer now speaks"—the erection of sluice-gates—"formed the subject of consideration in 1897 by Mr. Chollot who is still of opinion that by this means the question of cleansing the Yangkingpang may be practically and economically solved." The French mind is said to be essentially a logical one,

but how it reconciles the two statements that the only practical solution is culverting, and that sluice-gating will practically and economically solve the question we do not see. We have not the original letter before us and depend on the translation given in the minutes. However, our Council having, as we have said, asked the French Council to agree to the immediate construction of sluice-gates, and the latter having agreed to this and authorised the necessary credit for its half-share of the expense, our Council promptly changes its mind, and decides "that no expenditure shall be incurred in regard to the provision of sluice-gates or work connected therewith until after the ratepayers' meeting, so that full opportunity be afforded for preliminary discussion if desired." At first sight this is quite inexplicable, but there is a very simple explanation, the French Council having, it is understood, returned to their original opinion that culverting is the only practical solution.

The supplementary minutes published on Friday morning last are mainly taken up with the correspondence regarding the proposed new agreement between the Council and the Waterworks Co. It was not difficult to reach an agreement, considering that the company's statement must be generally admitted, "that at no time since the establishment of the company has there been any general cause of complaint by the public in regard to cost or quality of the water supplied for public and private purposes." There have, however, been often complaints at fires of the pressure in the mains; it may well be doubted whether the present water tower is either tall enough or large enough for the new Shanghai that is so rapidly growing up; but the company has generally shown itself so anxious to meet the growing wants of the Settlement that it was perhaps unnecessary to embody this point in the new agreement. There have also been complaints from time to time in the past that the company was charging more than five per cent on the actual rental of small foreign houses. Since the great advance in rents that has occurred here in the last few years, these complaints have ceased; and we now note that the water rate in the future is not to exceed four per cent of the rental of houses occupied by foreigners, and five per cent in the case of Chinese houses. The vexed question of the supply of water to residents in the far corners of the Settlement is to be settled in the new agreement, and the Council is to receive a free supply of water up to four per cent on the total output of the company's works. This is a very valuable concession, as water last year cost the municipality over £15,000. We note that the draft

of the new agreement is to be published for public information, and we may well defer any further criticism until that takes place.

We are glad to see the question of the conduct of Russian sailors on shore leave taken up by the Council. It was generally understood when about a thousand Russian sailors were interned in Shanghai on parole, that they were to have a place on the Pootung side as a recreation ground, and that when they visited the Settlement it was to be in orderly parties under the charge in every case of an officer. Considering the circumstances in which these sailors are here, it would have been thought that their officers would have been most careful that there should have been no occasion for such a remonstrance as that which the Council has been forced to address to the Russian Consul-General.

There is one other topic in these minutes to be noticed and that is the regulation of the street traffic in the Settlement. The Council has not yet succeeded in efficiently replacing Mr. Collins, who was a born traffic inspector, and the traffic at certain hours of the day on the Nanking Road and Bubbling Well Road, as well as on some of the cross streets, has got far beyond the power of the present inspector to control. The difficulty in the Nanking Road is increased by the permission granted to builders to occupy the footpaths without making any provision for the dispossessed pedestrians, who have in reality fully as much claim to consideration as those who go about in vehicles. There are at the present moment seven distinct spots in the Nanking Road at which builders have been allowed to take up the whole or the greater portion of the footpath without putting down any temporary accommodation for pedestrians; and the ordinary Chinese coachman has no compunction in driving right up to the gutter whether there are foot-passengers in his way or not.

WOUNDED MEN IN THE PRESENT WAR.

13th December.

It is seven years since we wrote, in this column, of "Wounded men in the Coming War." The article attracted some attention at the time and was copied in extenso by "Public Opinion." The war then expected was not the present conflict of East and West, but a purely European struggle, which happily did not occur, and we hope never will. Our remarks were based mainly upon the published utterances and writings of two men than whom it would have been difficult to find any more com-

petent to speak with authority. They were the Surgeon-General of the Prussian forces, and the veteran war-correspondent, Archibald Forbes. Had war then broken out it was estimated that the first great fight would have seen a million combatants in the field, and without allowing anything for the increased destructive power of modern weapons, the sum total of killed and wounded in the one battle alone was expected to be 140,000 or more. Of these it was thought that some 35,000 would represent the dead and the slightly wounded, the remaining 105,000 being so badly hurt as to need hospital accommodation. Dr. Bardeleben, the Surgeon-General, had already expressed his opinion that until the fight was over nothing could be done to bear away the wounded in litters as had hitherto been the rule, and consequently "first aid" would in the great majority of cases be impossible. "To cope adequately with this vast aggregate of human suffering," wrote Mr. Forbes, "is obviously impossible: it confessedly cannot and will not be attempted."

Such was professional opinion seven years ago. There has till now been no great war to test the truth of the assertions then made. Our South African war was a long war, not a great war, and in all probability wounded men then were nearly as well looked after as they were in the little expedition against Arabi, when it was said that no soldier needing help was left longer than a quarter of an hour without it. It would be manifestly unfair to judge the present combatants by the standards then set up. We should not, it will be argued, expect too much from Russia, who, thousands of miles from her true base, has but a single line of flimsily-laid rails to supply all the multifarious requisites of her large army. She has had to strain every nerve to make the stand she has, and criticism under the circumstances, it might be said, would be unjust.

But it cannot be forgotten that the war, if not entirely of Russia's own seeking, is entirely her own fault, and she should have been prepared for every contingency before driving Japan into a corner from which the only escape was by fighting. She ought to have known the alternative before her. The publication of a letter recently unearthed shows that Li Hung-chang clearly foresaw what has come to pass. It is more than strange, therefore, that no Russian should have known it. We are prepared to make allowance for the difficult position in which the Russians are now placed, but it is impossible for her Administration to clear itself before humanity from the accusation of sending tens of thousands of men into battle with little or no care what became of

them. Dr. Seaman has lately been lecturing at St. Louis upon his experiences in Manchuria. It is a very horrible, and a very shameful tale he has to tell; a tale of inadequate supplies, insufficient medicines, lack of instruments and other essentials, utter want of comforts, and sometimes even of necessities. Were this all, criticism might find itself disarmed before the reply that these most desirable things had been kept back in order to allow of the hurrying forward of troops and ammunition. But this is disposed of when the doctor says that though the hospital supplies could not come forward, room was found for thousands of cases of vodka and bands of disreputable women. A Russian officer tells how the wounded lay for days unattended. "Crowds of them," he says, "have to drag themselves sixty miles before they can get their shattered arms or injured bodies washed and dressed." Another eye-witness, speaking of the hospitals, says: "The air was thick and noisome, permeated with evil exhalations, and with the smell of blood, foul linen, and dirty bodies."

Contrast this with the chorus of praise and approval which has come from all who have seen the field-hospital system of the Japanese, and then we have another reason for the condemnation of Russia. It is not Japan who has gone through the world proclaiming her "civilising mission;" it is Russia. Yet there can be no hesitation in awarding the palm of civilisation to her who has never boasted of it. The difference, so far as hospital work is concerned, is as wide as that between light and darkness. On the one side everything to praise and imitate, on the other everything to censure and condemn. In this as in so many ways, the Japanese have shown us the advantage of prevision and preparation. Nothing was left till the last moment. There was little need for improvising. Foresight had done its work before the first shot was fired.

Nor is attendance to the wounded the only point in which the West will have to take lessons from the East. In all previous wars the loss from preventable disease has been greater than loss in battle. Seventy per cent of the American losses in Cuba were due to disease. Against this, too, the Japanese staff of medical officers have waged incessant war. They have watched over the food, the water, and the surroundings of the Japanese soldier. They have got it ingrained in his nature that clean wounds are not nearly so dangerous as dirty ones, and correspondents tell us that it is a common sight to see troops putting themselves and their clothing through the severest cleansing process possible before a fight comes off. As a result of this

combined science and common sense, it is said that the avoidable losses of the Japanese are very small indeed.

We have long known the homely doctrine in English that prevention is better than cure; it will come back to us and the whole world with fresh force as soon as the truth comes to be known respecting the vast chasm between the treatment of the wounded by boastful Russia and modest Japan.

THE CONSERVANCY OF THE HUANGPU.

14th December.

WE mentioned in this column on the 30th ult. that Sir Robert Bredon was leaving for Peking, where he would urge on the Diplomatic Body the merits of the alternative scheme proposed by H. E. Wei Kuang-tao, when Viceroy at Nanking, for the improvement of our river. We learn that the Foreign Ministers at Peking are to meet to-day to consider the subject, when Sir Robert Bredon will explain the proposals to which the present Viceroy, H. E. Chou Fu, has given a general approval. We understand that a meeting was held yesterday afternoon in Shanghai, attended by representatives of the Municipal Council, the General Chamber of Commerce, the China Association, and the American, German, and Japanese Associations, Mr. F. Anderson, Chairman of the Council, presiding, at which it was unanimously decided to send a telegram to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body at Peking, supporting the proposals to be laid before that Body by Sir Robert, and expressing the hope that steps would be taken to proceed with this urgently needed improvement without further delay. The meeting, it will be seen, was fully representative of the commercial community of Shanghai, who are so deeply interested in the question of the conservancy of our river.

THE RESTLESSNESS IN RUSSIA.

14th December.

A REUTER'S telegram which we published yesterday morning told us that there was rioting in the Russian capital on Sunday, organised by the revolutionary socialists, and not by the liberal reformers, and that a second outbreak was expected yesterday. Some months ago it was stated that many of the more enlightened people in Russia, confirming the axiom that there is a soul of goodness in things evil, were convinced that out of this war, however it ended, would come an assured liberalising of Russian institutions; and telegrams which we published

some days ago told us that the reform movement in Russia is spreading, and that a meeting of four hundred and fifty professional men in Moscow, assembled to celebrate the anniversary of the introduction of trial by jury, had sent Count Mirski, Minister of the Interior, the liberal-minded successor of Mr. von Plehve, a resolution endorsing the Zemstva's demands. These men are some of the liberal reformers alluded to in yesterday morning's telegram, not the revolutionary socialists who organised the rioting at St. Petersburg. It is understood that Count Mirski is secretly, though not openly, their leader; and their contention is that if the movement in favour of liberal reform is suppressed by the influence of the reactionaries, of whom the Procurator-General of the Holy Synod, the notorious Mr. Pobyedonostseff, is the leader, and among whom most of the Grand Dukes are included, there will be sooner or later instead of reform a revolution in Russia with horrors rivalling those of the French Revolution. To us, as to all other well-wishers to Russia, the success of Count Mirski will be most welcome, for it will mean the discomfiture of those who forced Japan into war, and who are urging its continuance with a reckless expenditure of the resources of their country, which needs them all for its own internal development. It is reasonable to believe that the Czar realises the necessity for reform as his grandfather did. It is well known that when the Czar Alexander II was murdered, he had in his pocket a constitution drawn up by Boris Melikoff which he intended to promulgate at once, and this fact has lent colour to the suspicion that his murder was really prompted by the reactionaries to whom the intended reform was most obnoxious, and not by the Nihilists at whose door it was laid. *Is fecit cui prodest.* However that may be, the murder of his father put Alexander III under the sway of Mr. Pobyedonostseff, and reform was postponed indefinitely. The Czarina, the grand-daughter of Queen Victoria, could never encourage her husband to be reactionary; and the Czar himself is too enlightened to imagine that the present régime can endure for many years. He must choose before long between admitting reform or suffering revolution. Unfortunately, he is singularly wanting in resolution, while he shows the occasional obstinacy of a weak nature.

Under these circumstances it is interesting to know what the demands of the Zemstva were. The Zemstva, which were established in 1864, are elective provincial assemblies, representing all classes of the population, nobles, merchants, clergy, artisans, and peasants, roughly corresponding to our County Councils. They were summoned by Count

Mirski to a conference at St. Petersburg on the 19th of November last, ostensibly to consider the question as to the reform of local administration, but they went so much farther than this that Mr. Pobyedonostseff succeeded in getting the Russian Press prohibited from publishing any account of the conference or its proceedings. The foreign correspondents in St. Petersburg, however, succeeded in getting full information, and a summary has been telegraphed out to Tokio, and appears in a recent issue of the "Japan Times." At the first meeting, on the 19th of November, 32 presidents and 64 delegates of the Zemstva were present, but the number at the final meeting on the 23rd of November was increased to 104. It is a very significant fact that the greater number of those present at the meeting at which the resolutions were passed that are so horrifying to the reactionaries, were great landed nobles who live on their properties, know what the internal condition of Russia really is, and have public spirit to take their share in the local government of their provinces. The resolutions, which were passed almost unanimously, consist of twelve clauses, the greater number of which are concerned with criticism of the lack of confidence and trust between the Government and the people, over-centralisation of political powers, and the evils of bureaucracy. "With a view to remedying these unsatisfactory features of the political body, the conference passed a representation to the Government to the following effect:—

"1.—That the officials guilty of illegal acts should be charged with civil and criminal responsibility for the same.

"2.—That the liberty of religious belief, of association, of publication, and of public meeting should be recognised.

"3.—That the equality of all Russian subjects in matters of sovereign (? municipal) and public rights should be recognised.

"4.—That the Zemstva should be re-organised and placed on a permanent and definite basis with more extended powers.

"In demanding the execution of the above reforms, the Zemstva attach particular importance to the interests of the agricultural classes. In order to secure a guarantee for the rights mentioned in the above representation, the conference demands the establishment of a Parliament. The resolution passed in this connection is to this effect:—

"In view of the gravity and dangers of the present situation at home and abroad, the conference hereby declares its wishes that the Sovereign will revolutionise the national policy by the advice of the people's representatives, so that the

country's development may be secured by the principle of mutual co-operation between the Sovereign and the people, and that, in order that this end may be attained, delegates freely chosen by the people be assembled together."

"The progressive spirit and independent attitude of the Zemstva," says Mr. Geoffrey Drage in his exhaustive work on "Russian Affairs," "have been characteristic features in the new reform movement." Two years ago, the Czar received at Koursk the representatives of the Zemstva and provincial nobility, and assured them that he was taking measures, through the Ministry of the Interior, to relieve the agricultural crisis in Russia, and that Provincial Committees were to be formed, in which the Zemstva and the Nobility would participate. Local Committees were accordingly organised by Mr. von Plehve, but he endeavoured to ignore the Zemstva, and confided the appointment of the Committees to the Marshals of Nobility. But so widely has the desire for reform extended that Mr. von Plehve's precaution was in vain, and the Marshals nominated a large majority of members of the Zemstva. "The Committees reported," Mr. Drage tells us, "that no improvement in agriculture could be effected by merely technical methods; it must be sought rather in radical political reforms. The measures recommended by the majority of the Committees were as follows:—

"1.—A great increase and improvement in elementary education under secular control.

"2.—That Zemstva should be established in those provinces where they are now non-existent; that they should have larger powers and be more representative than at present.

"3.—That the system of village communes should be reformed so as to place the peasants on a footing of equality with the rest of the nation.

"4.—The abolition of the protectionist system, which favours industry at the expense of agriculture.

"5.—That all impediments to free discussion of economic questions, either orally or in the Press, be removed.

"It is worthy of note that these recommendations proceeded in the first instance from a Committee which included all the leading officials of the province as well as representatives of the people." The Committees who had dared so much were duly punished for their temerity. Some of the members were summoned before Ministers and severely reprimanded, some were dismissed from office, and three were sent to Siberia. Mr. Pobyedonostseff and Mr. von Plehve succeeded for the time in heading off reform, but Mr. von Plehve is gone, and his successor is a reformer.

"The Russian people," says Mr. Drage, "are now entering upon the death-struggle for freedom;" and in this struggle they have the full sympathy of every other European and American people; for every other European and American nation has achieved the freedom for which Russia is struggling. No nation will sympathise with them more fully than the Japanese; for the Japanese are not the enemies of the Russian people who are longing for freedom, but of the bureaucracy who oppose the grant of that freedom, and to whose obliquity and corruption the present war and the misfortunes it has brought on Russia are due.

THE PAST HISTORY OF THE HORSE.

15th December.

"THE horse is a noble animal and useful to man" is one of the statements that was impressed upon us when our education began. As this noble animal is now threatened with extinction by the motor-car, which is said to be less costly to keep up and of less use across country, but equally dangerous to ride or drive, we must not put off too long devoting an article to him, an article which we have confidence in offering to our readers, because there is no-one in the Far East who would dare to confess that he had not an intimate knowledge of and interest in this noble animal, which, however, as Dickens points out, has a most demoralising influence on all those who are brought much in contact with him. If it is proved possible to continuously conduct the sale and racing of motor-cars with a high regard for strict integrity, the moralist will regard with something more ardent than equanimity the supersession of the horse.

Turning then to the past history of the horse—and for the facts that follow we are indebted to an article in the "Century" in which Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn describes the discoveries he was enabled to make through the liberality of Mr. William C. Whitney, at one time Secretary of the U. S. Navy,—we learn that up to date more or less complete remains of 771 fossil horses have been discovered in the western United States. It may be noted as a curious commentary on this that the horse was entirely unknown in America when Columbus discovered the New World. How the horse after having existed there for many thousands of years became extinct in the whole of that vast continent is a mystery. As far as our reading goes, no fossil automobiles have been found to account for it. Among the remains of these 771 separate animals, five complete skeletons have been found and

mounted, and according to Professor Osborn there are only three in all the other museums of the world.

The earliest horse, the Eohippus or "Dawn-horse" was found in the Lower Eocene. What would not admirers of the graceful form of the modern racer give to have seen a herd of these pretty little animals, for they were only eleven inches, or two hands three inches, high at the withers, thus resembling a lot of small fox-terriers. They were probably covered with brownish short hair with lighter spots like sunbeams falling through the leaves of trees, the little animals being thus protected from observation. If men had existed on the earth then, what pets they would have made of these little creatures. The Eohippus was followed by the Protorohippus which had four toes, the rudiments of which are found in the hoof of the modern horse. The Protorohippus was three hands two, or fourteen inches, high, and an almost complete skeleton of one of these was found in northern Wyoming. Then came the Mesohippus of the Oligocene, who was four and a-half hands, or eighteen inches, high. Thus the horse gradually grew larger and larger until in the upper Miocene three varieties of horse are found, all ten hands, or forty inches, high. These are the Hypohippus, a three-toed forest-living horse, the Neohipparion, also a three-toed horse, and the Protohippus or "Original horse." These three varieties were the same height as the average Shetland pony. The complete skeleton of a Hypohippus was found in eastern Colorado three years ago. He, like the Neohipparion, had a real foot of large lateral toes, serving to keep the feet from sinking in the relatively soft ground of the forests and lowlands where he sought the softer kinds of herbaceous food, for which his short, simple teeth were best fitted. Over the Neohipparion, Professor Osborn becomes really eloquent. He says:—

"Our most notable achievement was in South Dakota in 1902, when the Whitney party found the most perfect fossil horse skeleton ever discovered, which we subsequently named Neohipparion Whitneyi in honour of Mr. Whitney. Neohipparion was proportioned like the Virginia deer—delicate and extremely fleet-footed, surpassing the most highly-bred modern race-horse in its speed mechanism, and with a frame fashioned to outstrip any type of modern hunting-horse, if not of thoroughbred. Both the Forest horse (Hypohippus) and the Neohipparion races developed extremes of structure which were apparently fatal to their persistence under changed conditions. For this or for some other reason both races became extinct, while the Protohippus, of intermediate structure, survived.

This animal appears to have passed through Pliohippus, or the Pliocene horse, into the direct lineage of the modern horse; but we have not yet succeeded in finding either a skull or a complete skeleton which can be absolutely proved to be immediately ancestral to the true race of horses."

These small primeval horses had descendants of all varieties and sizes all over America in the præglacial epoch. The *Equus complicatus*, about the size of a small western bronco, has been traced over all the southern States of the U. S. A. A larger horse, *Equus pectinatus*, has been found in the north-eastern and middle States. On the Pacific slope is found another large horse, *Equus pacificus*, who was about the size of the modern roadster. In Nebraska the remains have been found of another tall horse, *Equus excelsus*. The largest horse so far discovered has been found in Texas and named *Equus giganteus*. His size is gathered from the fact that his grinding teeth are one-third larger than those of the modern dray-horse. In Florida and Mexico again, a diminutive horse, called *Equus montezumae*, has been found. All these præglacial horses were for a long time only represented by fragmentary remains, such as single teeth, broken skulls, and scattered bones; but in 1899, in Texas, a small herd of six or seven præglacial horses was found and the skeleton of one of them has been mounted. He is taken as the representative of the last of his great race in præhistoric America, and is about ten hands high. So entirely ignorant were the Central and South Americans of the horse when the Spaniards came there, that they believed the Spanish cavalrman to be a single animal, a sort of Centaur.

Professor Osborn closes the subject by saying: "We have still to solve the problem of when the separation of the three branches of the genus *Equus* occurred, namely the horses, asses, and zebras, animals which still interbreed, although the progeny, the mule and zebra hybrids, are sterile. The origin of these three great races is still to be traced. We may imagine that it was due to the dispersal under different conditions of climate of the original stem horses of Ameri-

"The health and vigour of an individual depend upon the quantity and quality of the blood. When the tissues have been at work, there are thrown into the blood waste products, and if these be not eliminated, but through any cause detained in the blood, they influence nutrition and function and finally produce organic disease."—"The Humanitarian." I cases of Scrofula, Scarry, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples and Sores of all kinds, the effects of Clarke's Blood Mixture are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by Dr. Clarke's Blood Mixture is sold everywhere at 25c. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutions.

ADVT.

ca. Thus the zebras are peculiarly characteristic of northern and southern Africa; the asses are represented by two single species in northern Africa and by five or six species in Asia; while the true horse has only a single surviving species in Asia."

Outports, Etc.

CHINANFU.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

3rd December.

A New Launch Service.

I wired you last week of the opening of the launch service on the canal leading from here to Yangkiakou, about 140 miles from here, where steamers for Chefoo and Tientsin are to connect with the launches. Unfortunately so far only one launch is available for service on the canal, but as navigation will be closed for the winter in a couple of weeks it will make little difference for this season, and as soon as spring opens the company plans to have at least two launches running, one leaving here every three days, and to have a couple of steamers to meet them at Yangkiakou, one going to Chefoo once a week and one to Tientsin twice a week. This seems to be a purely Chinese concern, the head man in it being Mr. Tong, who is President of the Chefoo Board of Trade. It is to be hoped the venture will be successful as it is very desirable that Chinanfu should have more direct connection with Chefoo and Tientsin than around by Tsingtao. The object of the Company, apart from the wish to make money out of the steam service, is to help the trade of Chefoo, which has been more or less disastrously affected by the diversion of the piece goods trade to the railway. Formerly nearly all the piece goods which came into Chinanfu, were brought in by steamer and native boat from Chefoo by way of Yangkiakou and up the canal, but since the completion of the railway most of this trade comes in through Tsingtao.

The Railway

has made our coal this winter nearly two-fifths cheaper than formerly and we get a better quality. There seems to be a good deal being brought in and a great deal of freight is being sent out in the shape of beans and cotton. It is said that the railway is now paying expenses, which I hope may be the case. A recent traveller reports the carriages as being nicely heated, which is a great improvement over last winter, when the trains were very cold indeed, no heat being furnished to any class of passengers. A recent change in the schedule now brings the evening train in at about half-past seven in the evening, only a little more than twelve hours from Tsingtao, instead of about fourteen as formerly. The morning train leaves here about 6.30 a.m.

CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE.—"The most searching Blood Cleanser that Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and sub-science and medical skill have brought to light." Sufferers from Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds are solicited to give it a trial to test its value. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. **attest.**

—ADVT.

CHINKIANG.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

8th December.

Masonic News.

The installation of Wor. Bro Laughlan Alan Byworth as Worshipful Master of the Doric Lodge of Freemasons, No. 1433 E. C., took place on the 5th inst. The following officers were appointed:—

I. P. M. Wor. Bro. Frederick Siemssen.	
S. W. " Ewen William Sharples.	
J. W. " Colston Caines.	
Treasurer " Frederick K. Gregson.	
Secretary " Thomas William Bown.	
S. D. " John George Barkley.	
J. D. " Charles Edward	

Holworthy.

D. G. " " Joseph Ratcliffe.	
Tyler " Samuel Joseph Taylor.	

A old collation was provided by the newly-installed Master and was much appreciated by the brethren. The usual Masonic toasts were honoured and a few of the brethren with musical talent gave songs, while others recited. The evening came to a close with "Auld Lang Syne" and "God save the King."

NGANLUFU, HUPEH.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

29th November.

A New Official.

The city is quiet. Robbers fortunately leave it alone. Making raids upon villages where there is no militia is safer for them. A new chih sien rules here. He has not been resident long enough either to make or mar a regulation. Little is known of his antecedents. This may be to his advantage. His predecession has gone to Tsao yang, a city north of this one and some fifty miles south-west of Hsiangyang, its prefectural centre.

Recruiting.

The cantonment on our river banks has been occasionally gay with decorated boats. They were conveying recruits to Wuchang. The recruiting officers in charge seemed proud of themselves, their flags, and the recruits. The gilt-braided uniforms of well-dressed officers; the good wage guaranteed to be regularly paid; the promise of quickly rising from the ranks, are doubtless effective inducements to join. The men, young and smart now enlisting should, with good instruction, make fine soldiers, and if inspired with patriotism, form an army China should be proud of.

A Surprise Visit.

The towns on the banks of the Han are more or less controlled by a military official who resides at Hsiangyang. The recently-appointed official is trying to reduce the proverbial lawlessness of such places. Surprise visits by specially-appointed gunboats is the plan adopted. They arrive suddenly after dark. The crews are told off to search any and everyone found in gambling or opium dens, etc. Such a visit was paid to the station in our west bank suburb. The party landed and searched. The shrill sound of a police whistle was answered with a rush of men, banging of doors followed by protestations of culprits. The weiyuan of the party was soon on the scene. Some of those surprised had a bad half-hour. A soldier in uniform was among the number. An appeal to his superior resulted in that individual screening himself by pleading ignorance of his

"brave's" gambling habits or repeated absence on shore. The face of the officer and the skin of his brave were saved. A lecture on ethics was given to all, including the officer. How much such a procedure cost was secret. Boat crews and passengers, shopkeepers and householder were all aroused, interested, and excited. But for the brave's officer, the excitement would have been brisker. For some more interesting, for others more painful.

The Empress Dowager's Birthday.

The Edict concerning the Dowager-Empress's birthday celebrations arrived too late to allow of elaborate decorations. The few displayed in the busier streets were appreciated by the crowds, who from far and near crowded the city for the festivity.

The Hsien Examinations

are now being held. Students are anxiously asking if there be any short and easy method with the Western subjects, now so needful for examinations.

The River

is now normal for the time of year. Officials and missionaries bound for the north-west provinces are making all haste to get their long journey over before the intensely cold weather and the Chinese New Year come along. The banks of the river between here and Hankow have stood the wear and tear of freshets well. Already the officials or populace of the parts which are most weakened are at work repairing for next year.

The Raft Merchants

have had heavy sales of smaller trees. Many such rafts are being beached for use as piles in several places between "Fairy Peach Mart" and this city.

At one town foundations are already dug for some good-sized breakwaters, which must be built to save the washing away of a large part of its chief streets.

The Firewood Market,

which has twice suffered severely by the freshets during the last two years, is in an almost hopeless state. There is not capital enough in the town or neighbourhood to effect repairs needed to save it from being washed away. It now forms a promontory upon the east side of which, the waters coming from the Upper Han must drive until it disappears.

The New Ten-cash Pieces

have suddenly become most popular in the city. Some shopkeepers are trying to make ninety-eight of them do for a thousand cash. Convenient in many ways. The innovation does away with cash strings. All the hemp grown can be exported, but it means less profit for small growers and no employment for the many women and children employed in the cash-string industry.

The Weather

has been and still continues ideal for farming operations and for travel. The vegetable market is full, fruit, potatoes, turnips, carrot, cabbage, and spinach being abundant. The ploughing was followed by rains which made sowing early and satisfactory. Peas, beans, and corn look well and give promise of early and full crops. Weather being most favourable, the coolies with their Hankow goods are trudging along in good numbers and good form. So also is the sand which continues to be a hindrance to those who have known it longer.

Post-Office Irregularities.

Notifications of Imperial Post Office irregularities have been answered with "we cannot understand how such things can be." The irregularities continue. Mails are delivered in batches, taking more than twice the official time stated. Some letters and papers fail to reach their destination, even

when addressed in Chinese and English. Missing papers average one a month and it is usually a Tuesday's paper. The "North China Daily News," for Tuesday the 11th October, and Tuesday, the 15th November, are the most recent not delivered. That the mail carrier leaves mail bag and letter satchel uncared for on the small steamer's main deck, while he seeks a sleep under a tarpaulin on the upper; that during his sleep letters are handed on the steamer by a ferry-boat, p'op' and other irresponsible persons; that an occasional surprise visit to the Fairy Peach Post Office finds three, four, or five sets of mails covering as many days lying snugly in pigeon holes; that mails delivered by the carrier one morning at the Nganlu Post-Office are sometimes not delivered to the owners until the next day, indicate that the native staff are not alive to the duties of the Imperial Post Office to its patrons.

NINGPO.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

13th November.

A Great Fire

broke out in the city last evening about ten o'clock, on the main street inside the East Gate. This part is where the finely-decorated shops are of which mention has been made by your correspondent. Between forty and fifty shops were burnt out, one being the branch shop of the Shanghai Dispensary. The fire took both sides of the road, and burnt furiously for five hours despite the heavy rain which fell. Many reports of the damage are being circulated by the Chinese, some computing the total at a quarter of a million dollars. Many of the shops were insured, so that the insurance companies will suffer heavily.

Three Other Fires

broke out during the night, two of which were certainly started by the burning debris from the East Gate fire, some of which was carried a long distance by the strong wind. One of these fires attained big proportions, some fifty houses being burnt; and what is most sad of all, five persons lost their lives.

PEKING.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

20th November.

Famine Relief.

While the people in the flooded districts, south of Peking, were waiting for the promised help from the Empress-Dowager, they were surprised by the appearance on the scene of seven deputies from Shanghai who proceeded to visit the villages and arrange for the distribution of relief. They had been sent by Shêng Kung-pao, who had presented the suffering people the goodly sum of fifty thousand taels. This money was to be distributed in the seven counties, Wenan, Paoting, Hsiunghsien, Wuch'ing, Tungan, Pochou, and Kuan. The people are not in a state of great destitution and a little aid will make it possible for them to have seed for sowing on hand when the spring opens. But these men from Shanghai have not done their work in a spirit of sympathy for the people helped. They speak only imperfectly the language of the north and are very rude to the villagers. If the headman of a village happens to lead the inspector into a home which shows some

signs of having a little grain on hand, or animals, or any comforts, the inspector has him immediately beaten, and that too not lightly. Only the very poorest are helped at all, and those very sparingly. The self-respecting middle class to whom a little help would be most acceptable but who are not absolutely barren of everything, are passed by and the off-scourings of the villages get the help. At the rate the funds have been distributed of late, the whole sum of fifty thousand taels would reach many more districts than the seven mentioned above.

Village Schools.

The Viceroy and under-officials in this province are doubtless sincere in their efforts to arouse an interest in popular education. Orders are issued that schools are to be established in all the villages, or nearly all, especially those which have temple lands the income of which can be used for this purpose. Many priests have been driven out of the temples and the buildings turned into schoolrooms. Buddhist priests are in for a hard time. They have had an easy time for hundreds of years and have never done anything to show their gratitude nor help the people, and now they must shift for themselves. But the people dread these schools. Being under official control, the magistrate feels bound to call upon them once in a while, and when he does so his crowd of followers must have a generous squeeze from the villagers. Furthermore, the teachers must use the textbooks furnished by the yamen, and if those which we saw are any fair specimen, no literary graduate is able to understand them. It is most absurd to foist such text-books upon country schools and expect the ordinary teacher to explain them. Moreover, the Viceroy expects each school to be a forced subscriber for the "Pei Yang Pao," or Official Gazette, published in Tientsin, which costs the people, after the yamen squeezes have been paid, almost as much as the school itself.

A "School for Interpreters"

has been started in Peking and has about two hundred and fifty scholars. Prof. Howard Swan has charge of the English department and has over fifty very enthusiastic students studying with him. He is an expert in the English language, and the school is very fortunate in securing such a teacher. He also teaches French equally well as English. Schools for all languages are all well patronised in Peking and the result will doubtless be that soon foreign education may take the place of the Chinese learning in securing degrees.

Thanksgiving Day

was observed by all Americans in Peking, as usual, by accepting the kind invitation of Minister Conger to a service at the Legation, followed by refreshments. The address this year was given by the Rev. A. M. Cunningham and was a résumé of the advances made during the year in the United States and the causes which call for gratitude. The sermon was written, and commanded the close and interested attention of all. The Legation at present is bereft of its ladies, with the exception of Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Haskins, and soon Mr. Conger will go to meet Mrs. Conger and Miss Campbell at some place in the south.

The Paving of the Streets

seems to continue right into the cold weather. Na Tung has the matter in hand and seems to think he can do the

work with much less money than the estimates made by the foreign engineers. To be sure he may be cutting under their estimates, but it remains to be seen how long his work will stand. The street is divided into three sections, the middle section being twenty-eight feet wide and confined in use only to richas and light vehicles. If the street is well guarded and heavy carts kept off the middle section, the life of the road will be greatly prolonged.

Chang Chih-tung's Unwise Action.

The attack made by Chang Chih-tung on the scheme presented by Professor Jenks has created some stir in Peking. It seems strange that a man who has posed as the promoter of all schemes for the good of his country should take such a retrograde position on one of the greatest methods for advancing the best interests of China. The whole matter seems to hang on the question of foreign control, and he thinks the Chinese are adequate to look after their own financial schemes. But Viceroy Chang seems to be using what good he could extract from Professor Jenks' scheme and has begun coining tael and half-tael coins in the province of Hupeh. If good for one province, why not persuade the Central Government to take up the matter and make it universal throughout the empire and bring the large returns financially into the coffers of the Emperor?

POCHOU, ANHUI.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

26th November.

Moving.

Your scribe has been absent from Pochou since the last of May, hence no correspondence during that time. I am just now on the move with my family from Tai-fu, Shantung, to Pochou, Anhui. We started on the 8th of September, but on arriving at Chinkiang to wait the arrival of my brother from the United States my sister developed a case of typhoid fever, and so we were detained there for over seven weeks.

Shanghai to Pochou.

I am writing now mainly to give some description of the water route from Shanghai to Pochou. One can, if he wishes to take the time, load his goods and self on to a boat in Soochow Creek, Shanghai, and go without change to Pochou, going first via the So-chow Creek to Soochow, thence on the Grand Canal to Tsingkiangpu, across the Hungszahu up the Huai River to Huaiyuanshun and thence up the Kua River to Pochou. The time from Shanghai to Pochou would be from 25 to 40 days according to the wind and weather and the cost from \$40 to \$100 according to size of boat. One can, of course, come on steamer to Chinkiang and start the boat stage from there. We left Chinkiang on a large house-boat on the 10th of November. Our boat has six compartments in it and we can make ourselves quite comfortable on it. There are nine of us—five adults and four children—aboard. We are paying for our boat from Chinkiang to Pochou, including \$20 for tow by the launch to Tsingkiangpu, \$95.

There is a short canal just above Tsingkiangpu, connecting the Grand Canal and the lakes, from which much of the Grand Canal's water supply comes.

The Huai River flows through the lakes into the Canal. There is evidently a very large traffic across this lake up the Huai River and its feeders. I

was struck with the number of rivers we passed up which boats could traffic from the Huai. At times it was very interesting to see the many boats under sail on the lake. But it is a very great drawback that they are so much at the mercy of the winds in crossing it. There are some sixty miles of the lake region, where they cannot track and pull their boats. Our boat met a head wind just as we entered the lake and stood at anchor more than four days. A very light-draft, flat-bottom launch could do a good business, I should think, in towing native boats back and forth across the lake. I should think that two to three feet of water could be found almost anywhere.

Making Calls.

We looked in upon our friends at Huai-yuen. Mr. and Mrs. Lobenstein of this station travelled up with us. Two of the other gentlemen were absent. They seem to have made a good run upon the city, but there are some places in the near country where the people seem very unfriendly. The Mission is preparing to begin their buildings there very soon, they having lived so far in rented Chinese houses.

A New Mission.

I hear that the Christian Mission at Nanking has recently rented houses at Pochou and expects to locate three families there next year. Three families of us (the Gospel Mission) are just now settling there, so that it seems that this long neglected and vast field is to be neglected no longer.

The Crops.

On this long journey from Chining-chou down to Tsingkingpu and then up, I have found the people in general quiet, busy, and apparently happy. In most places I hear of good crops and that always means much toward the quietness and happiness of the people. The wheat crop just put in seems a large one and at present quite promising.

YUNG'PINGFU.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

26th November.

A Trip Outside the Great Wall.

Your correspondent here has but recently returned from a trip outside the Great Wall, extending over three weeks, a few notes of which may not be without interest to your readers. Accompanied by Mr. R. J. Gould, sub-agent of the British and Foreign Bible Society at Tientsin, I started off on the 19th October, passing through the Wall at Leng'kou, a pass which lies about 90 li north of this city. Our itinerary led us through the mountains to Tach'engtze, Tatzukou, Pakou, and Jehol, and considering that we travelled quite unarmed, and were in constant touch with the people in the markets, inns, etc.—for we were selling Scriptures and preaching all the way—it says something for the pacific state of the country that we were never in any way subjected to annoyance.

The country we passed through is certainly one of the most exhilarating districts of Northern China. Hills we never once lost sight of; passes, more or less difficult, were quite a common occurrence; rivers to be forded we got to take as calmly as our meals, one day fording one river nine times, and the next morning a tributary of that same river seven times. This all within a

distance of not more than ten miles. The "Hungtutse," who devastated this district two years ago, and terrorised all the people for miles round, have apparently gone to seek "fresh woods and pastures new" further east, an occasional footpad only intruding himself upon public notice. One such had been captured at one town we passed through—Tachangtze—and was sent on to Ch'iananhsien, to interview the gentleman that wields the axe.

General Ma's Troops.

The troops of General Ma Yü-k'ün are stationed in contingents all round the country, and in some places seemed to be suffering from lack of something to do. This was notably the case at Tach'engtzu (let not this town be confounded with Tachangtzu) where they looked to us to partake more of the old "brave" type than the smart foreign-drilled men we have at Yung'pingfu. They managed to behave themselves fairly well so long as either of the foreigners were near the bookstall, but with our backs turned, they were neither friendly nor complimentary in their remarks to our colporteurs, and in not a few cases prevented people from purchasing. At Pakou, where the old General is himself stationed, the men were a much superior type, due, no doubt, to the fact that they are kept hard at work every day on the parade ground. We had the pleasure of an interview with General Ma, who as soon as he learned of our arrival, sent an invitation to us to visit him, and kindly offering us an escort to Jehol. The invitation we accepted, the escort we declined with thanks. The General was very genial and friendly when we met him, full of questions as to what was transpiring in Manchuria, though possibly at that time he knew more than we did, and curious to know if there was any likelihood of friendly intervention. He was curious about some other things too, such as the price of our foreign clothes, and the cost of the teeth that a kindly dentist supplied to your correspondent some months ago. Not that he needs any, but—well—he wanted to be knowing, that's all. We failed to discover any signs of restlessness on the part of his troops, and it is difficult to imagine how, with his headquarters two hundred miles from the scene of conflict, the General finds it difficult to keep his men in hand, according to newspaper reports. One man to whom we put the question, replied: "Why, the Russians are having hard work with the Japs! Why should we be needed to do anything?" And Echo answers, Why?

Corean Paper Boots.

The troops in the North have a better opinion of Japanese valour than Japanese leather. One man, noticing our boots, remarked upon their durability, and told us that last year some Japanese gentlemen reviewed the troops at Tungehou, and afterwards sent ten thousand pairs of boots as a present to the forces. "Where are they now?" we asked. "Worn out long ago," was the reply, "they were very poor boots, not so good as our own cloth boots." And a comrade standing by, joined in: "Yes, they were made of Kaoli chih (Corean paper)."

A Chinese Giant.

At a town near to Pakou we fell in with a young Chinese giant, and felt almost sorry we were not relatives of Barnum that we might exploit him.

Seated in an inn one day writing, with a curious crowd round me in the usual style, my friend drew my attention to a man who had just joined the throng. He was stretching his head over the others, and I could not believe that he was not mounted on a box or something of that sort. But his feet were on the ground and his head was a long way from the ground. We measured him, and found him to be six feet nine and a-half inches, and as he was strongly and sturdily built he was a very fine specimen of humanity. I laughingly suggested to him that he should offer himself to Viceroy Yuan Shih-k'ai, as a candidate for post of personal bodyguard, and his reply in substance was: "Wouldn't I just like the chance!"

Mission Work

is carried on in Tatzukou, James Gilmour's old station, by the Irish Presbyterian Mission, who have their headquarters at Ch'ao'yang, but the town is quite important enough to have a resident foreign missionary. Vigorous work is done at Pakou and in the surrounding district by the "Brethren" mission, and daily the hall on the one street that Pakou boasts—it is seven English miles in length—is crowded with people who listen attentively to the preaching and purchase not a few of the books. There is no fully-qualified medical man there, but a worthy brother who has had considerable training at home, and a large medical experience in China, sees from fifty to sixty patients every morning. Many of these patients are soldiers from General Ma's camps, so that our friend is really the army medical officer.

A Few Hints to Intending Trippers.

We returned to Yung'pingfu down the Lan River, getting a small boat at Jehol, or to be exact, at a small village twenty li from the city. The trip down the river is most enjoyable, and our chief regret was that we could not shoot any of the thousands of ducks we saw there. May your correspondent give a few hints to intending trippers into this interesting region?

First, be sure to take your passports. We were never once asked for ours—missionaries rarely are—but nowadays the officials are keen on knowing who their numerous visitors are. The innkeepers at Jehol have orders from the Tartar General to send intimation of all foreign arrivals as soon as they appear, with particulars as to name, country, destination, etc., etc.

Secondly, if you want to see through the palace grounds at Jehol, get your Minister in Peking to request the Waiwupu to give you a permit for that purpose. Otherwise, like us, you will be disappointed.

Thirdly, don't spoil things for other people by throwing your money about lavishly. One boatman wanted twenty taels to carry us to Lanchou. Considering that that sum would buy about six of the boats, we did not see it. We got a boat for eight taels, yet even that man wanted us to buy matting for the journey. We told him we had not arrived yesterday, and later on, when I said that his former customers had bought matting only because he had hoodwinked them, he grinned and said "tuila" (correct). If you find a difficulty in hiring either boats or carts, apply to the able and courteous head of the Foreign Bureau in Jehol, Wang Talaoyeh. He will make your path smooth for you.

YUNNAN.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Chaotung, 14th November.

Boxers in Yunnan.

This plague has reached us at last. A few months ago a Living Goddess of Mercy (活觀音) made her appearance in the north of the Chaotung prefecture. She resided in the house of a coir worker named Ting and stated that she was a member of the famous Red Lantern sect, which caused so much trouble in Szechuan a few years ago. She scattered her cards in all directions and began teaching Boxer mysteries to a number of people. All who joined her in fact had to provide a military outfit and a flag. As the Manchus have hitherto failed to drive out the foreigners the Gem Emperor (玉皇) had issued a decree appointing Ting King of Yunnan and giving to him the work of destroying all foreigners. In addition to the forces he gathered from the neighbourhood he was to be assisted by a magic army of twelve gallons of hemp-seed soldiers and thirty-four gallons of yellow-bean soldiers. These, when scattered on the ground like the seed which mighty Jason sowed, were to spring up as well-armed men and then war to all foreigners. The 19th of the 9th moon was fixed as the date of the rising. The whole countryside knew of the matter, but the spies sent out by the officials failed to discover it. When the fated day came, the Feast of the Goddess of Mercy, the clans gathered, and the yellow standards were erected, bearing the legend "By command of the Gem Emperor Destroy all Foreigners." According to an old Chinese military custom a sacrifice was to be offered to the flag. Who sacrifices more welcome to the gods than the body of a Christian! The bands went in search of a Protestant Christian living not far away, met him on the road, seized him, and gave him the choice of idolatry or death. He refused the former and they gave him the latter. After killing him, they cut off his head and cast his body into a ditch. The blood was then scattered on the standard and the head hung up in triumph. The die was cast.

Mr. Lee, a Chinese B.A., who is pastor of the work in that district, as soon as he was assured of the truth of the story, did his best to move the local officials. The highest military officer there is a lieutenant, and he has only three or four soldiers under him. There has been a wholesale cashiering of small military officials and soldiers, leaving many of the districts practically defenceless. Lieutenant White started off with his handful of men and gathered up a band of militia by the way. The captain of the militia is a Christian and not afraid of the magic of the Living Goddess. On arriving at the stockade built on a dangerous cliff, the rebels were summoned to surrender with a promise of life if they did so. Had they not remembered how Chinese always keep such promises, they were still too sure of their magic soldiers tamely to give in to such a small force. A volley from within and the death of one of White's men was the reply. The fighting went on more or less all day, and at last the stockade was set on fire. The rebels rushed out to escape the flames and many were cut down. The king ended his short reign, and instead of remaining as he had boasted firmly seated on the "Throne of the Nine Dragons," went to reside beneath the "Waters of the Nine Fountains." The Living Goddess perished in the flames. All the wonderful leaders in this great rebellion found their careers cut short.

Such is the story as far as I know it of the first Boxer Rising and of the

first Protestant martyr in Yunnan. This experience does not at all exhaust the troubles of this far-west province.

Missionary Troubles.

In July last a number of Huamiao (花苗) came to the mission station at Chaotung for Christian instruction. They kept coming in increasing numbers until the Chinese got alarmed. All these Miao are tenants and do not own any land. They are largely in the employ of the great Ijen (夷人) chieftains, who own most of the land and who rule like feudal lords with a rod of iron. In addition to paying rent, these Miao, under a harsh system of corvée, have to work for their masters year in and year out. They have been mercilessly ground down. As soon as the word went abroad that the Miao were becoming Christians these great landlords became alarmed and started rumours and persecution all over the place. There was the old story of well-poisoning, the poison being supplied by the foreigners. The lives of the Miao were made a misery to them; some were racked, some were chained, some were beaten, many had their goods taken from them, and the final threat of dismissal from their land was held over them. They were either to give up Christianity or be a d-d slave. What a concise illustration of the truth Henry George laid down in his epoch-making work. How the battle will end I do not know. The British Consul-General has stiffened the officials and they are rendering some help. Now the rumour is rife that the Miao and the Mantze are going to rebel, headed by your correspondent. A novel role for a Methodist missionary to play.

Railway Troubles.

A large number of coolies have been engaged from Szechuan to work on the Southern Railway. In their passage to their scene of work they caused a lot of trouble on the road, and on one occasion had a fight with the soldiers, in which several were wounded.

The Beating of a Missionary.

The China Inland Mission, under the superintendence of the vigorous veteran, the Rev. J. McCarthy, is doing a fine work in this province. Among other new moves a station has been opened at Pinghsien on the borders of Kuichow. The missionary in charge there was met on the street by some government soldiers passing through. The scene became rowdy, and at last administered a beating to the missionary. This is the second time this has been done in this province.

The Baltic Fleet.

News has reached us to-day of the strained feeling in England over the actions of the Baltic Fleet. If there should break out a general European war, it is likely that the lot of foreigners in the interior of China would be anything but rosy.

JAPAN.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tokio, 2nd December.

Port Arthur.

The capture of the 203-metre battery was officially announced yesterday morning. Almost all the Tokio papers this morning editorially dwell on this coup and express unmixed joy over it. They say that whether Port Arthur finally falls soon or not, does not practically affect the situation, as the key of the main girdle of the enemy's defences is already in the hands of the Japanese. The Russian boast of the impregnability has been now disproved. The Liaotishan fort only can now contest with the 203-metre battery. The

Japanese are able to fully command the town and the harbour. The remnant of the squadron and steamers in the harbour will be totally crippled very shortly and the gallant Admiral Togo will be entirely free to accord a polite reception to the new visitors, leaving only smaller vessels at Port Arthur. In the meanwhile, the preparations by the Japanese against the north-eastern batteries are not in abeyance.

Some Details

The 203-metre hill is the "High Hill" of Russian reports. It is the most lofty eminence after Liaotishan. The first attack by the Japanese was made on the 19th of September and after sanguinary fighting a lodgment was effected at the north-west corner. There the assailants were subjected to a fierce counter-attack, desperate and continuous, which ended in their retirement, the impossibility of pressing home the assault at that stage having been recognised. The Japanese made their attack from three sides, but on one only had partially succeeded. They then resorted to regular siege methods, and on the 28th October the next advice of their operations was published, stating that a certain measure of injury had been inflicted on the place by the siege guns and naval guns, but its defensive capacities had not been seriously impaired. The present attack began on the 26th November, and on the 28th the besiegers succeeded in carrying the enemy's shelter trenches near the top of the height. The last bombardment commenced on the 30th November at dawn and the entire fort was occupied by the Japanese at 8 p.m. At this writing, the enemy was persistently attempting to recover the battery. As to the question of the Russians retiring to Liaotishan, it is stated that it would imply the abandonment of the main batteries as well as the harbour and the town. Major-General Nakamura, who led a forlorn hope on the 26th ult., is wounded in both legs.

The Formosan Garrison.

Lieutenant-General Uyeda, late Commander of the Hiroshima Division at the front, and who has been appointed Commander of the Formosan Garrison, vice Lieutenant-General Kurose, left Tokio on Tuesday last for the island. Colonel Matsuishi has been appointed chief of his staff. He was until only recently second on the staff of General Kuroki's Army, and is reputed to be an able authority on strategy and tactics. During the Japan-China war the Colonel took part in the expedition to the Pescadores and served in the Island for some years. The new military appointments probably may have close connection with the expected arrival of the Baltic Squadron. The southern archipelago of the Japanese Empire may yet play an important part in the present war.

The Recapture of Huaijen.

A Japanese detachment from the vicinity of Kuantien occupied Huaijen on the 26th November and about 1,800 Russian troops were obliged to retreat northward, after removing the telegraph line. From this telegram it appears that Huaijen was retaken by the Russians some time after 12th June, when the Japanese occupation of that place was announced for the first time. The present occupation seems to be the Japanese recapture of this point. Huaijen is north of the upper Yalu. In the above engagement, twenty-five men, including a captain, were killed and forty-four wounded.

Miscellaneous.

In instructions to all divisional commanders in Japan regarding the physical examinations of conscripts, the Minister of War says that at the present time there is a danger, owing to the warlike spirit of the nation, that many young men may conceal their physical weaknesses in order to be accepted for service. The medical authorities are therefore warned to take exceptional care in their examination.

The Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture expresses his heartfelt thanks to all the members of the St. Andrew's Society of Yokohama for their generous subscriptions, amounting to ¥740, for the relief of the sufferers by the war. He also desires to mark his sense of their good feeling towards Japan shown by their sacrificing their annual festivity on account of the lamentable war now being waged.

Tokio, 7th December.

Port Arthur.

The 203-metre height, which was permanently occupied by the Japanese in the fourth general attack on the Port Arthur main defence line, is a historical point in modern warfare. It was on this hill that the late General Yamaji established his headquarters on the occasion of the capture of Port Arthur in the Chino-Japanese war. On the night of the 20th November, 1894, the Japanese troops of the First Division, under the famous General, bivouacked on the western side of Itzeshan, arriving by way of Louisa Bay, and at 6 o'clock on the following morning they commenced firing on the Itzeshan fort, and after a general charge lasting only two hours, that strong fort fell into their hands. Soon afterwards the Japanese stormed the town and the fall of the entire fortress was quickly effected. That morning General Yamaji ascended a hill and, commanding the whole situation, directed the operations. The hill was indeed the present 203-metre height, which has just been carried by the officers and men of the right wing of the Investing Army.

It is also said that the 203-metre eminence resembles the Malakoff of Sebastopol both in position and in the progress of the fighting. The Malakoff having been occupied by the gallant French troops, the fortress of Sebastopol fell in one day. The Japanese paid a great cost to purchase the 203-metre hill and the Russians resisted by heavy sacrifices. Its occupation has now become permanent, and the doom of Port Arthur is anticipated by the Japanese to be decided in the same way as Sebastopol ere long.

Attempts to Recapture.

The machinery of communication is perfectly completed by the Russians among the Port Arthur forts extending to about ten miles, and all important points are telephonically connected, so as to ensure joint assistance in case of emergencies. On the night of the 3rd November when the Japanese attacked the 203-metre height in force, considerable numbers of Russian reinforcements seemed to be continually arriving there, and especially at the moment of capture considerable numbers approached the hill. If the Japanese had touched the summit later than these Russian reinforcements by even a step, they would have encountered a further stubborn resistance, but the Japanese had succeeded in storming the top when the later Russian reinforcements arrived at about the middle of the

hill. The new-comers met their comrades, who had been repulsed from the summit, and were compelled to retreat in confusion with them. But in a few hours the Russians restored order and attempted to advance on the heights. The Russians while holding this position, seem to have prepared their counter-attacks to be made on the occasion of the capture of the hill, for several counter-mines were found pierced up to the summit. The Russians persistently tried to advance on the hill through these mines, inter alia, like ants emerging from their nests. The greater portion of the crews of the Russian warships have been ashore and many of them were killed or wounded, as was proved by the dead bodies of enemies discovered by the Japanese after the occupation of the 203-metre eminence. Consequently it will be impossible for the Russians to utilise their ships as hitherto, though they are still seaworthy to some extent. It is said that the besieged recently attempted to resume the mine-clearing of the harbour-mouth, but were prevented by the Japanese fire. In a Tokio paper there appears an account showing the terrible sufferings of those whose duty holds them in the trenches. The fighting is mere child's play compared with the nervous strain of hiding day after day in holes in the ground with the certainty that if one raises one's head it will be a mark for many rifles. The cold and discomfort are intensified by inundations of rain water and snow water mingled with blood. Major-General Ichinohe, whose name has been given to one of the captured forts, remained for sixty days without changing his clothes, and he now keeps as a trophy his trousers stained from the knees downward with blood.

Two Generals Wounded.

Among the wounded officers at the recent operations against the north-eastern forts of Port Arthur were Lieut.-General Tsuchiya, commander of a certain Division, and Major-General Nakamura, who led a forlorn-hope on the night of the 26th of November. The Major-General was wounded in the legs, and one of his feet is said to have been amputated. As may be remembered, it was his detachment which first entered Liushutun, Talienwan, immediately after the capture of Nanshan. Upon the occupation of the 203-metre battery, the Japanese papers published the likenesses of Lieut.-General Matsu-mura and Ohseko. Major-General Nakamura has been quartered in a field hospital. His progress was satisfactory, and he is to be sent home in a few days. Lieut.-General Tsuchiya, who is severely wounded in the head, has already arrived at Hiroshima. No special anxiety is felt as to the condition of the General, and he is expected to recover within a month or so.

A Catechism in Neutrality.

With reference to the negotiations with the Powers concerned in connection with the coaling and provisioning of the Baltic fleet, it is stated on high authority that Japan had at first asked explanations of Denmark, Spain, and France. The Paris Foreign Office accepted a part of the Japanese representations, but the replies of the Spanish and Danish Governments proved unsatisfactory. In consequence, Japan has been compelled to lodge formal protests and the negotiations are still continuing. As to Holland and Portugal, Japan has only had to warn them, as their territories were on the way of the Russian eastward voyage. Japan has

also warned Germany beforehand against a violation of neutrality on the occasion of the appearance of the Baltic fleet off German South-west Africa, and the Wilhelmstrasse is said to have replied that the Russian warships would not call in German territory. Angra Pequena, German Africa, where the Russian fleet is reported to have recently taken in coal, is shallow within a distance of twenty miles from shore, and that the Russians acted independently outside the German territorial waters. The contentions of the Japanese Government in this contest are that to supply belligerent men-of-war so as to enable them to reach the nearest home port is excusable, but the coaling and provisioning to the Baltic squadron, which is on its declared voyage for the seat of war, constitute a distinct violation of neutrality. On the whole, the Powers concerned continue to be evasive and not unnaturally some naval sections urge that Japan should go to the length of availing herself of neutral ports, as is done by the Russians.

Conditions at Vladivostock.

The British steamer Calchas, which was arrested by the Vladivostock squadron in July last, was released from Vladivostock on the 2nd inst. and arrived at Nagasaki on the morning of the 5th. She was immediately docked there. According to her crew, negotiations for the sale of the steamer to Russia have not been satisfactorily concluded. The three warships at Vladivostock have been made good and they are occasionally steaming outside the harbour. Communication between No. 1 fort at the harbour mouth and the signal stand is brisk. Since August some thirty vessels have arrived at Vladivostock, mostly from Hongkong, Shanghai, and Saigon. The land traffic is also active. A portion of the field artillery is said to have proceeded to Mukden by special order of General Kuropatkin. Of late, no reinforcements seem to have arrived at Vladivostock. The garrison is engaged in drilling every day. Communication is open with Shanghai and with Alaska as well as European Russia. No submarine boat is reported to have arrived from home. One torpedo-boat recently underwent trial trips. Coal and flour in stock are ample, but medical materials are scarce. When the Calchas left the port a strange cruiser was seen entering Vladivostock.

The Diet.

On Saturday last the Premier and the Minister of Finance addressed the Lower House. The speeches by the two Ministers conveyed nothing new, but it was noticeable that they were loudly cheered by the House. On Sunday last the Progressives resolved to cut down the proceeds of the new increased taxation by Yen 42,220,000, but the present indications are that the Ministerial programme will be ultimately adopted by the House. The Progressives, who have over ninety Representatives, intend apparently to adhere to the present alliance with the Seiyukai, which has about 140 Representatives, with a view to dealing with the post-bellum programme. But it remains to be seen in what manner the present parties, which have invariably objected to enhanced taxation, can actually handle the post-bellum programme.

A Pro-Russian Letter.

The "Kokumin" has received the following from an anonymous contributor from London (apparently a friend of the Russians) and printed it to enlighten its readers:—London, 24th Oct., 1904. It is

you, you are the "idiots and lunatics" as to "common-sense" it is nil in you, little stubborn Japs. It is you and your crafty Mikado who should "this day" of your "own accord, bow your head, bend your knees and implore" pardon from Russia, you should "sue for peace" or the "Powers" should go and exterminate your little rapacious selves from the face of the earth. That will be your fate if you do not hasten to behave. Ten long years of preparation and what have you done after all? Fought, killed, and got killed; hyenas, wolves, rats can all do that as well as you. You have taught the world that you cannot control your evil passions, so you should have keepers like the infuriate "idiots" and criminal "lunatics" that you are!

Japan and Civilisation.

The Japanese must really be puzzled to know what constitutes civilisation, observes an English paper of Yokohama. They tried to eat bread; they went in for dancing in the immoral Western style; they revised their laws and drew up codes. In fact they did everything to appease their inexorable critics. But it was contended that the Japanese civilisation was only a veneer which would disappear again and that the Japanese were only imitative not receptive. In the meanwhile they went to war with China and played the principal part in the expedition against the Boxers. Then they went to war with the great Northern Power. They did not go to war to show that Japan is a civilised nation. Nobody ever suggested that war was a part of civilisation. They went to war for certain political reasons. The proof of the pudding is in the eating. Who after this can say that Japan is not civilised?

Some Points.

Upon the joining the colours of new recruits on the 1st inst. all the Depot Divisions are now quite filled. In Tokio many batches are quartered in the temples, etc.

The Japanese naval landing party, which is participating in the siege of Port Arthur has, so far, sustained 259 casualties, including 25 killed, 14 succumbed to wounds, and 220 wounded. The number of officers killed and wounded is three and two respectively.

Commander Prince Yamashina, who returned from the fighting fleet some months ago, embarked from Saseho for a certain point on the 5th inst.

INDIA.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Munnaar, 15th November.

Lord Curzon's Return.

It is officially announced that Lord Curzon will leave England on the 24th inst. and reach Bombay on the 9th December. H.E. Lord Amthill, on taking over charge of the Viceroyalty in Calcutta, will return to Madras, bringing with him as personal staff, Major W. MacL. Campbell as Military Secretary, and Captains Popham and Lord Frederick Blackwood as Aides-de-camp. "Lord Amthill," remarks the "Saturday Review," "has made an admirable Governor of Madras and gone far to justify the opinion of him held by his contemporaries at Oxford, especially in Vincent's and at the Union. But had he even the repute and capacity of Lord Curzon, he would not as the Viceroy's vicar have the full authority, and much delicate and responsible work has soon to be settled."

The New Resident of Travancore.

Mr. J. Andrew, the new British Resident, will take charge from Mr. G. T. Mackenzie on the 19th inst., most probably at Quilon. Bright little Quilon will no doubt be all "en fête" for the occasion, and the beautiful Residency will probably be packed with guests, as the rest of the station admits of little in the way of accommodation for visitors. The ever-hospitable residents, however, are always found ready to fling wide their doors and entertain strangers. Up to the present time visitors to this charming sea-side station in Travancore have usually arrived by road in carts from Shencottah, on the eastern boundary of the State, or by backwater from Trivandrum, or other places on the coast. Sad experience proves that the cart journey, of two nights and two days along rough country roads, is one not to be lightly undertaken; the slowness of the patient bullock—two miles an hour—permits indeed of a leisurely survey of the beautiful ghaut scenery, but even beauty palls when accompanied by the fearful jolts and bumps of these springless carts. For several days after such a journey one can count every bone, joint, and muscle in one's body, each distinguished by its separate ache. The backwater journey is in fine weather a much pleasanter experience. Time still being no object, one glides along in the native canoes called "wallams" (capable of holding from twenty to thirty natives each, and propelled by a single poleman), or the more pretentious cabin-boat with its crew of oarsmen, who row to the rhythm of their strange native lyrics. On passing a chapel or hearing a church bell ring, the oarsmen, who are all either Roman Catholics or Christians of the ancient Syrian Church, cease rowing, salute the building or the bell, and join in singing an ancient hymn. The scenery is lovely in the extreme, the backwater being shaded by groups of palm trees, screw pines, and shining dark green trees, many of them displaying the full glory of their huge starry blossoms; in the undergrowth are seen many gorgeous flowing creepers, shrubs, and ferns, depending from the banks and dipping into the gliding water. At times the canals widen out into lagoons and lakes, with arms stretching in various directions, with banks and cliffs of high red laterite, and studded with low islands covered with grass and sedge, or overgrown with a jungle of evergreen trees, rattans and flowering shrubs. The days of these romantic journeys are, however, drawing to a close, as the South Indian railway has just constructed, and will shortly open to the public, a line from Shencottah to Quilon, running across the State of Travancore, through very fine mountain and forest country. The handsome railway stations at Quilon, (for there are two; one for the public, and one, a little beauty, for the Rajah and his household), the houses for railway officials, and all the pretty little wayside stations are built of red brick and tiles in the distinctive Travancorean architecture, which is most picturesque and quite unlike anything else of the kind in India.

Mutiny Veterans.

There are still in India many veteran soldiers and volunteers, who rendered loyal service to the Government during the Mutiny, but who now, through various circumstances, find themselves in their old age with straitened means, or even in a state of destitution. The "Gazette of India" publishes a resolution undertaking to consider all

claims made by such persons, provided they are really in indigent circumstances. Many claims to rewards said to have been promised in the Mutiny have been received, or to compensations for wounds and injuries, which after so long a lapse of time it is often impossible to verify. All these cases will be reconsidered under certain conditions published in the "Gazette," grants of pension or increase of pension will be determined by the Government with reference to the applicant's position in life, the nature of his mutiny services, and his present means of subsistence, each case being decided on its own merits.

The King's Birthday.

The birthday of his Majesty the King was celebrated in Colombo on the 9th instant with great enthusiasm; an investiture and levée, a military parade, and a ball marked the occasion, evidence of loyalty being displayed in all parts of the city, in the shape of flags, arches, and other decorations. A contemporary supplies the following vivid description of the investiture of chiefs, a ceremony dear to the heart of the native.

"The man who is an aspirant for honours looks forward to the King's birthday for months previously. On the eventful day he is all excitement and is one of the earliest arrivals at Queen's House. Those who hold honours also appear on the scene early. He is either proud of his decorations, or is present in time to offer his congratulations to those receiving rank. In a short time the vestibule of Queen's House is all in a bustle—there is the Aratchi with his silver belt and sword, feeling the importance of his position and rubbing shoulders with the Gate Mudaliyar, all broad cloth and gold embroidery. The Kandian chiefs are much in evidence, with their pin-cushions and cumbersome apparel, taking up the room of two people, but most affable to their brother chiefs of the low country. As the time of the investiture draws nearer, the advent of the Maha Mudaliyar in his gorgeous uniform causes a flutter, and he is received with dignified respect. The early scene is completed by the arrival of the Lascareen guards. The tom-toms give a flip to the proceedings and everybody becomes all eager, all expectant. Before the chiefs go upstairs those entitled to private entrée have arrived. These include the Judges of the Supreme Court in their red robes, the dignitaries of the Church in their hoods, the various Consuls, and the heads of the military. At 12 o'clock the investiture is over. The levée gentlemen have found their way upstairs and are wedged in all the verandahs. H.E. the Governor appears, attended by his staff, the guard below presents a royal salute, and the levée begins. The boom of the big gun salute can be heard from the roof of the breakwater." Queen's House was everywhere thick with flowers, arranged most tastefully in gorgeous profusion.

The Mission to Kabul.

The Amir consents to receive at Kabul Mr. Louis Dane, Foreign Secretary, who will start about the 25th inst. to discuss with His Highness questions concerning his relations with the British Government. A contemporary learns that the Amir has issued a circular to his officers and subjects on the forthcoming British mission, inviting their co-operation for transport and supply arrangements between Dacca and Kabul. Regarding telegraph and postal arrangements, it is understood that the telegraph head office will remain at Landital, and that the Amir's officials

will make daily postal arrangements for the mission. The present expedition should be attended with none of the difficulties and dangers which surrounded the late mission to Tibet, now so happily concluded. Although Mr. Dane's party is to pass through the Khyber in the cold weather, it must be remembered that this pass cannot be compared to the lofty passes guarding Tibet. The height of the Khyber is only about 3,373 ft. above sea level and 2,100 above Peshawur.

Murder of a European in the Khyber.

Caravans arriving at Peshawur on the 8th inst. reported the death of Mr. Fleischer, an employee of the Amir, between Dakka and Landi Kotal. The body has since been brought into Peshawur for burial. It was not at first known how or why the unfortunate man met his death, but it has transpired that he was shot by one of his own military escorts, a duffadar whom he had offended. The state of the body shows that the victim was killed by a shot fired at very close quarters. Mr. Fleischer, an Austrian by extraction, was engineer in charge of the Amir's military workshops, and was each year, on his visit to India, provided with a military escort. It is understood that the Amir has caused the whole of the escort who accompanied the late Mr. Fleischer, when he was killed, to be arrested. The sadness of the tragedy of his death is enhanced by the fact that Mrs. Fleischer was on her way from Europe to meet her husband in India.

LONDON.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

5th November.

The Anglo-Russian Crisis.

All this week his Majesties' Ministers have been falling lower and lower in the estimation of the public in respect of their management of the North Sea crisis. Of course the public does not know all the circumstances of the case; and it may be that they judge Mr. Balfour and his colleagues unjustly; but, however that may be, it is certain that while the Jingoese have been incensed ever since Mr. Balfour's speech at Southampton was reported, the more Moderate Imperialists who at first hailed that speech with delight have since considerably modified their enthusiasm. When Admiral Rozhdestvensky and his fleet left Vigo, leaving only four subordinate officers behind for the purpose of the International Commission, the whole world outside Russia was taken by surprise. We are assured that our Government saw no reason for complaint in the Russian action—that they never dreamt of demanding the detention of the fleet at Vigo, or dictating what or how many witnesses Russia should call in her defence, nor did they expect the Admiral to remain behind. That, so far as it goes, is no doubt true. Serious as the outrage was, it did not give us a right to ignore our obligations as neutrals and interfere with Russia's forlorn hope for the relief of Port Arthur. But it is certainly very difficult to square the events of the week with the Prime Minister's flaming speech at Southampton, or with his account of the Russian concessions which Count Benckendorff had authorised him to announce. One cannot indeed blame the German Press for describing our policy as one of bluster followed by ignominious retreat.

Hitches in the Negotiations.

I have, however, the highest authority for saying that what is put forward as the view of our Government on the Vigo incident is not the whole truth. Regarding Russia as the defendant, it is quite true that we have no right to dictate to her about the witnesses she should call in her defence. But it was not only witnesses that the fleet was to leave behind. Mr. Balfour told us that "the Russian Government have ordered the detention at Vigo of that part of the fleet concerned in the incident in order that the naval authorities may ascertain what officers were responsible for it. These officers . . . will not proceed with the fleet." Now I know positively that up to twenty-four hours ago the British Government had failed to obtain any assurance from the Russian Government that any of the four officers detained were detained on the ground that they were responsible for the incident. Indeed we know that three of them are lieutenants, while the fourth, Captain Klado, is the trusted bearer of the Admiral's report to the Czar, and will certainly not be treated as a defendant. Moreover, there is a great difficulty in coming to terms with Russia as to the details of the reference to the International Commission. The points in dispute, I am told, are seemingly small; but in the opinion of the British Government they would just make the difference between a real inquiry and a sham. Fortunately, although the Baltic fleet are beyond Vigo, the Admiral's ships are still shadowed by our cruisers, and if Russia persists in trying to shuffle out of her engagements we shall not be without the means of bringing her to her senses.

The Inquest.

All praise is due to Coroner, jury, and all concerned in the inquest on the two men killed. The fishermen gave their evidence calmly and soberly; and if we had not already known positively that there was not a Japanese torpedo-boat within hundreds of miles of the North Sea at the time of the outrage we should be convinced of the truth of their story. Counsel for the Treasury warned the jury of the inadvisability of allowing indignation to show itself in their verdict. They refrained from using the word "murder" or "manslaughter," and contented themselves with a sober and dignified statement of the ascertainable facts that the men were killed by shells fired from Russian ships at a distance of about a quarter of a mile while the trawlers were showing the proper lights and while their distinctive marks as fishing boats were clearly visible. Various stories have been invented to account for the criminal blunder committed by the Russians; but all we can be certain of at present is that it was due to most unseamanlike panic, probably intensified by drunkenness.

A Warning from France.

We have during the past thirty-six hours been anxiously awaiting news of the fall of Port Arthur; but our hopes have again proved to be premature. Still very little doubt is entertained here that the Russian catastrophe will occur, if not within the next few days, at all events long before the Baltic fleet gets to the Far East, and there is a firm belief here that it will never get there at all. Even the strongest anti-Russians need therefore feel no regret that we have not stopped the fleet at Vigo; indeed many

hold that the kindest thing we could do for Russia would be to stop them. I believe, however, there is good ground for the report that Lord Lansdowne received from M. Cambon a distinct warning that if after Russia had offered us reasonable amends for the North Sea outrage we persisted in stopping the Baltic fleet by force, France would feel bound, under the terms of the Franco-Russian alliance to intervene by force on behalf of her ally. No one therefore should blame our Government for striving to the utmost degree compatible with honour to avoid the necessity of action which would involve at least three great European Powers in war.

Home Politics.

One little advantage Mr. Balfour has derived from this lamentable incident. Before it happened everyone in this country was on the tiptoe of expectation to know what the Prime Minister would say at Southampton about the fiscal question—how he would manage to stick to his resolution not to go beyond his Sheffield programme and at the same time appease the Chamberlainites. The Russian outrage gave him the opportunity of shelving the whole question and saying nothing about it. With this view he deliberately did his best to keep the country for seven or eight hours in ignorance of the settlement of the crisis—the temporary settlement if it should prove to be no more—in order that the might reap the advantage of making the announcement at a party gathering. In the meantime the party wire-pullers had been striving with considerable success to bring the National Union of Conservative Association to an appearance of unity on the fiscal question. This was done by inducing the withdrawal of all the Chamberlainite resolutions and concentrating attention upon a resolution moved by Mr. Chaplin endorsing Mr. Balfour's programme, and especially approving his proposal for a Colonial Conference. Then the Conference proceeded to urge the Government to tackle the redistribution question before dissolving. But whether the Government will adopt this advice is by no means certain. The subject bristles with difficulties. The Irish Unionists do not want redistribution. The reduction of their representation would not, in their view, be compensated for by a still greater reduction in the Nationalist representation. Of course redistribution, if carried out in defiance of the Act of Union, would materially decrease the Irish Nationalist vote, but at least a portion of the gain would go to the English Liberals, and it is probable therefore that the Conservative party as a whole would be worse off rather than better. This of course is looking at the question from a purely party point of view. In abstract justice a Redistribution Bill is certainly needed since one voter in Kilkenny City has as large a share of representation as about fifteen in Wandsworth.

Dan Leno.

Drury Lane has had another serious blow in the death of Dan Leno, following so closely upon that of Herbert Campbell, who was for many years his principal colleague in the Drury Lane pantomimes. Dan Leno, it is true, had never been quite himself since his serious illness of last year; and at the time of the last pantomime the management had to provide, at considerable trouble and cost, against the strong probability of his breaking down at any moment. There is no question

that Dan Leno was the most original and most genuine humourist on the Music Hall stage. He was a genius in his way, and he "created" his parts in a way which renders that word more truly applicable to him than perhaps to any other actor. Of course all the jokes which he introduced into his parts were not his own. Like greater geniuses he did not scruple to avail himself of the ideas of others. But he had an inexhaustible supply of ideas,—his own or other people's—for improving the parts written for him, and unlike many comedians he was as merry and as witty off the stage as he was on it; and he was as warm-hearted and generous as he was well supplied by his earnings with the means of indulging his generous instincts. His loss will therefore be felt deeply by the less prosperous members of his profession.

FROM OUR LADY CORRESPONDENT.

28th October.

England in Arms:

During the present week I think not only the Press but the entire English-speaking race have wished for some new adjective wherewith to express their indignation at what the King has called the "unwarrantable action" of the Russian Baltic fleet in firing on harmless British fishermen, seemingly for no better reason than because they thought they saw two Japanese torpedo-boats in the midst of their fleet, or that the whole fleet were Japanese in disguise. Although by to-morrow morning a full week will have elapsed since the outrage took place, we are still patiently (most people say too patiently) waiting for Russia's explanation of the matter and wondering if the result will be war? I heard rather an amusing solution of the situation yesterday from a working man. He said Russia did it on purpose, and they want us to attack them for it, because, of course, we should beat them, as the Japanese have done already only they won't own it. They reckon that if they had two separate wars on hand at the same time the other Powers would step in and effect a settlement, and they would retire with far less ignominy than if they had been defeated by Japan alone. I thought it rather ingenious reasoning but decidedly expensive for Russia. In the meantime the whole nation is full of sympathy for the relatives of the two murdered men—for surely it was practically murder on the high seas—and for the poor fellows who have been injured by the Russian shot and shell; funds and charity performances are already being organised for their relief and doubtless liberal donations will result; but the matter is one which must affect the shipping of the whole world. An Australian now in England wrote an excellent letter to the "Times" in which he pointed out how all the "outer Empire is breathlessly waiting to see what stern and peremptory thing the Mother Country will have to say to Russia and is nervously fearful lest it should be inadequate." He says: "Should the English Government fail to make clear to Russia, and the world, that in this instance there is to be no evasion of and trifling with definite issues, there will be two inevitable results so far as 'Greater Britain' is concerned. One is, that the sentiment of Imperial unity will be immeasurably weakened, and the other that secession will pass from being the ridiculous dream of the few to a matter of discussion for the many."

Mr. Abbey's Coronation Picture,

so long looked for, is at last on view at Messrs. Agnew's galleries in Bond Street. It is a matter for regret that it was not possible to include it in this year's Academy as, of course, many thousands of people who could have seen it there will be unable to do so now, still, now that it is finished, it is pleasing to be able to record the fact that it appears to give general satisfaction. At the private view I heard nothing but praise of it. Personally I must say I found it difficult to take it all in. The general effect is certainly better in the distance than near to, but the mass of faces is almost bewildering. There are 115 actual portraits for most of which sittings have been given, and in addition to this there are numbers of groups in the far distance. Altogether one can only describe the amount of work in the canvas as simply colossal. The actual performance of the Coronation is depicted. Dr. Temple is holding up the Crown in the act of placing it on the King's head. Near him stands the Bishop of Winchester, beyond them is the Queen looking perfectly radiant in her golden robes, and on either side of her are the Bishops of Norwich and Oxford. Among the Peers it is easy to make out the Duke of Norfolk, the Duke of Argyll, and the Duke of Fife. Lord Roberts is another notable figure and Lord Wolseley stands near him. The Prince of Wales and the Duke of Connaught stand to the right of the Coronation Chair and just behind them is the late Duke of Cambridge. With the exception of His Majesty every one is standing, and rather a curious effect is obtained by the fact that all the Peers are just in the act of raising their coronets; of course, as the supreme moment was chosen for portrayal this was inevitable, but it did not add to the general effect in my estimation.

In the Death of Lady Dilke,

women workers sustain a great loss, as anything that appealed to their interests was always certain of her support. I was surprised to see that she was as old as sixty-four, as her energetic life led one to regard her as still a young woman. She had been twice married, her first husband being Mr. Mark Pattison, Rector of Lincoln College, Oxford, an extremely learned man, and many years her senior. A year after his death she became the wife of Sir Charles Dilke and from the first she identified herself entirely with his interests and pursuits. As an art critic she was almost unrivalled, and for many years she held the post of principal critic to the "Academy"; she was also a constant contributor to the "Saturday Review." A brilliant speaker, she will always be remembered in connection with the movement for trades unionism among women, and all that concerns their work. The underpaid woman worker always gained her ear. She argued that it ought to be possible for a woman to work at such a wage as still to remain robust and healthy, and for this end she aimed. She has not lived to see much material improvement effected, but the good work she did is bound to tell. Unfortunately the number of would-be workers so far exceeds the demand in most trades that women are in point of fact their own worst enemies, and this constitutes the greatest drawback to any remedial movement. There are always women ready to work at practically any price. For this reason Lady Dilke advocated Unions among women and

they undoubtedly will prove the only effective measure.

The Servant Problem.

An effort is being made at the present moment to solve our great domestic servant problem by means of a co-operative society to be known as "The National Registry, Limited." The idea is to establish all over England registry offices on co-operative principle. Both mistresses and servants will be invited to take up £1 shares and they will be guaranteed five per cent interest on their investment. It is proposed in the first instance to open four hundred of these offices and co-operation will be invited with the "Girls' Friendly," the "Young Women's Christian Association," and kindred societies. Personally I believe so little in registry offices that I have but little faith in the movement. It seems to me also that if servants are to be shareholders in the concern, it will be to their interest to organise constant changes without which the concern must languish. I believe the eventual outcome of the difficulty will lie in the adoption of the American system of day service for small households; large establishments have but little to fear, I think for many years to come—it is the general servant who clamours for her evenings to herself and one can scarcely blame her as her days are often little better than a species of slavery.

Rhodes' Scholars at Oxford.

With its usual spirit of enterprise the "Daily Mail" sent a reporter down to Oxford one day last week with instructions to hunt up the seventy-two students who are there at the present time owing to the munificent bequest of the late Mr. Cecil Rhodes, and gather from them impressions with regard to university life in the historic city. It was what the Americans would call somewhat of a "large order" as of course there are young fellows from many of our colonies in addition to Americans and Germans taking advantage of the wonderful opportunity afforded them of going in for a college career. The impression gathered seems to be that on the whole these students from the New World regard the ancient city with veneration, but at the same time they think it "centuries behind the times." The dons they stigmatise as "nice old gentlemen and very kind" but they fully endorse the famous criticism of their benefactor as to their childishness in all matters pertaining to business. The Americans, especially, had plenty to say on the subject of games. They remarked that they liked playing "Rugby" football but that it seemed very tame after the game played in the States. "If your boys were to play our game with their knees bare like I saw them yesterday there would be a good few ambulances needed after every game." Customs at the Oxford Theatre are likewise a source of great surprise. "In our country they said, we only clap and stamp; here you fellows seem to help the actors along by shouts and yells, and even by singing their songs for them." This is certainly absolutely true and I hear that the actors often miss the kindly aid most sadly in the next town they visit. On the whole it appears, however, that the newcomers are not only being taught but are doing a little tuition on their own account and, as the "Mail" says, it seems possible that Mr. Cecil Rhodes' scheme for converting a provincial into an Imperial University will be very largely realised.

A Famous Actor Married.

Old Theatre-goers may be interested to hear that early in this week Mr. Edward Terry, the actor, and owner of the theatre in the Strand which bears his name was married, very quietly, to Lady Harris, widow of the late Sir Augustus Harris, of Drury Lane fame. Mr. Terry is to leave England early next year for a tour through the States and his new wife will accompany him; previously to that, however, he continues his provincial tour and plays next week in Ireland so the honeymoon can only be of a few days' duration.

J. K.

Meeting.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Council held in the Board Room at 4.30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 7th of December, 1904, there are present: Messrs. F. Anderson (Chairman), A. W. Burkill, H. De Gray, D. Landale, E. S. Little, O. Meuser, C. W. Wrightson, the Secretary, and the Assistant Secretary.

The usual formal business is transacted.

Thefts from Wharves.—Having reference to recent letters from certain firms connected with the scrap-iron trade instructions are given for the provision of special police assistance in the detection of thefts of this class of cargo from the neighbourhood of the wharves. The cost of this service will be defrayed by the firms concerned.

Alhambra.—The Legal Adviser reports that, upon attending at the Spanish Court on the 6th instant, he was informed by the Consul that there was no case, because the upper storey of the building had been sublet to an Italian subject, and that he had thus no jurisdiction. It is decided to direct that a public hearing of the case be again applied for.

Fire in the Chaoufoong Road.—Report by the Electrical Engineer is submitted having reference to the fire at No. 20, Chaoufoong Road on the 30th ultimo. He has thoroughly inspected the electric installation at these premises and finds that there were no wires in the roof, where the fire originated, and that the insulated covering of the wires nearest to the fire showed no sign of charring. From these facts it is clear that the cause of the outbreak is entirely unconnected with the electric light service, and the slight shocks experienced by persons on the roof may be traced to the fact that the insulation of the wires was impaired by water and connection thus set up. These shocks were not of sufficient strength to endanger life.

Sale of Electric Lamps.—Some discussion arises as to the advisability of continuing the sale of lamps, in the course of which, the Council, while recognising that to afford the public an opportunity of purchasing efficient lamps at a reasonable cost is one making for a satisfactory service of house lighting, records the view that such continuance would be contrary to the spirit of the recent resolution of the Ratepayers dealing with fittings. It is therefore decided to sell forthwith by public tender the present stock of lamps, together with the present stock of fans, and to print on the debit taken forward monthly to consumers a note to the effect (i) that frequent re-

newals of lamps keep the number of units consumed low and ensure better light, and (ii) that inefficient light is frequently due to cheap and bad types of lamps.

Defence Creek Bunding.—Following upon the present meeting between the Works Committee and the Stewards of the Race Club, a plan is submitted providing for a new bund line to be laid down for a section of this creek so as to provide a uniform width of forty feet for the Thibet Road and 40 feet for the creek. The formal approval of the Club to the line is received and recorded.

Public Lighting.—As the result of a Police report, the Engineer's proposals for re-lighting the Tientsin and Ningpo Roads are approved. Thereunder seven incandescent gas-lamps will be erected in the former road and four in the latter, one additional electric arc lamp being placed between the Honan and Kiangse Roads. In this connection the Chairman of the Works Committee comments favourably on the result of the long-arm suspension brackets recently placed at street corners in the Szechuen Road, and the Engineer is directed to report on the possibility of extending the system to other streets in the Settlement.

Town Hall.—An estimate for painting this building will be submitted for inclusion in the Budget for 1905; in regard to a ceiling, the Council directs that a detailed estimate of cost be submitted without delay with a view to the work being proceeded with.

Gaol, Women's Ward.—Note from the Mixed Court Magistrate to the Captain-Superintendent of Police is read, from which it is learnt that the Taotai has refused his consent to the transfer of the female convicts from the Court to the Municipal Gaol. In view of the fact that a special women's block has been erected with the approval of the authorities concerned it appears to the Council a matter for regret that its immediate occupation by the existing number of female convicts is prevented by the action of the Taotai.

Public School for Chinese.—The minutes of the meeting of the School Committee of the 6th instant, and the School estimates for 1905, are laid upon the table. A revised prospectus and curriculum have been approved and will be printed in pamphlet form. The Council learns with regret that Dr. Richard, the Chairman of the Committee, owing to his approaching departure from Shanghai, finds it necessary to resign his seat.

River Conservancy. A memorandum on this subject by Sir Robert Bredon has been circulated to members, and the Chairman outlines proposals for a joint letter, to be addressed to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body in Peking, by the Chairmen of the Chamber of Commerce of the British, German, American, and Japanese Associations, and by himself, in support thereof. The members are unanimously of opinion that any step towards the very desirable end of improving the riverine approaches to Shanghai is entitled to support.

Volunteers—Amendment of Regulations.—Letter from the Commandant is read on the subject of certain alterations in the Regulations of the Corps which have received the approval of the officers. These amendments are endorsed by the Council and ordered for publication.

Shanghai, 6th December, 1904.

SIR.—I have to report for your information and that of the Council that at a meeting of the Wing and Unit Commanders of the Corps held on the 5th Decem-

ber the following proposed amendments of the Corps' Regulations were approved, and I have now to submit the same for confirmation by the Council:—

I.—Rule 23. The Constitution of the Clothing Board is amended to read as follows:—

"The Officer Commanding the Corps for the time being as President, the Wing Commandants, the Adjutant of the Infantry Battalion, the Corps' Staff Officer and the Officers commanding the Artillery and Light Horse.

"The Quartermaster of the Corps for the time being as Secretary. One Officer of the medical staff to be appointed by the Principal Medical Officer."

The following new Regulation is included as No. 26, the numbers of the subsequent Regulations, 27 to 32 inclusive, being changed accordingly. Regulation 33 is expunged:—

Regulation 26.—"Every member on joining and after receiving his uniform, arms, and accoutrements shall give a written undertaking to serve in the Corps and become efficient for three consecutive trainings, failing which he shall pay to the Council the sum of seven dollars for each year's efficiency uncompleted, provided such failure is not caused through sickness or enforced absence from Shanghai."

For purpose of record and publication, it may here be noted that the Dress Regulations appended to the code have been cancelled, and are now under revision, also that under Rule 13 the allowance for attending schools of instruction is fixed at 12s. 6d. per diem for one month's course.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

M. WATSON, Major.

Commandant, S. V. C.

The CIVIL COMMANDANT, S. V. C.

The meeting adjourns at 7.10 p.m.

The following are forwarded for publication with the foregoing minutes:—

WEEKLY POLICE REPORT.

Statement of apprehensions, etc., made during the week ending 2nd December, 1904.

Offences.	No. of apprehensions.
Assault	6
Breach of Garbage Regulations	37
Breach of Municipal Regulations	153
Burglary	4
Committing nuisance	160
Extortion	1
Firing crackers and burning joss-paper	4
Furious driving	2
Gambling	1
Larceny	35
Obstruction	55
Receiving stolen property	3
Soliciting prostitution	6
Unlawful possession	8
Miscellaneous cases	11
Ricksha licenses suspended	15
Ricksha licenses confiscated	377
Wheelbarrow licenses suspended	42
Handcart licenses suspended	1
Beatings, hawkers, and ragpickers	340

Total number of cases coming under the notice of Police

Chinese dead bodies found in streets

Unmuzzled dogs captured

" " shot

A. M. BOISRAGON, CAPT,
Captain-Superintendent of Police.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER.

During November the number of deaths among the foreign resident population was seven; there were in addition ten deaths among non-residents.

Among the native population the number of deaths during the month was 617.

The incidence of Small-pox has been greater than normal and the public are urgently requested to attend carefully to vaccination, which should, in Shanghai, be repeated every three years. All Chinese and also indigent foreigners are vaccinated free at the Health Office, 1, Honan Road, daily at 10 a.m.

During the latter part of the month Diphtheria became prevalent among the foreign community; there being eleven cases notified. A comparatively large quantity of Diphtheria Antitoxin has been issued from the Laboratory for the treatment of these cases both locally and in other parts of China. Eight cases of Scarlet fever and of Typhoid fever were also notified.

The arrangements for occupation of the new Municipal Hospital in Range Road for cases of infectious disease are quickly nearing completion and it is hoped to open for reception of cases early in December. Meanwhile temporary accommodation is provided for these cases at the Chinese Isolation Hospital.

The new Disinfection Station and the Public Mortuary and Inquest Room are also ready for use.

Here follow tables of Vital Statistics, Infectious Disease, and Outdoor Sanitary Work; Work done in the Municipal Laboratory, Vaccine Station, Victoria Nursing Home, and Slaughter-house; and lists of Laundries, Dairies, and Dealers in Perishable Food-stuffs licensed for the protection of the Public Health.

A. STANLEY,
Health Officer.

Deaths Registered.

	Non-Chinese.	Chinese.
Small-pox	0	109
Typhoid Fever	0	0
Cholera	0	0
Tuberculosis	0	148
Total from all causes ...	7	617

Infectious Disease notified among non-Chinese.

Small-pox	6
Cholera	0
Typhoid Fever	8
Diphtheria	11
Scarlet Fever	8
Tuberculosis	1

Isolation Hospital.

Admitted to Hospital	85
Discharged	53
Died	3
Remaining last day of month	60
Out-Patients	257
Vaccinations	32

Vaccine Station.

Tubes of Aseptic Glycerinated Vaccine, prepared in the laboratory by inoculation of calves, issued during the month, 3,900 tubes.

Municipal Laboratory and Pasteur Institute.

Bacteriological Examinations	87
Cases undergoing Anti-rabic Treatment ..	0
Chemical Analysis	21
Diphtheria antitoxin issued, 120,000 units.	

Analysis of Water supplied by Shanghai Waterworks Company.

Sample collected at Municipal Laboratory.
Date of Analysis—26th-30th November.

CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE.—“The most searching Blood Cleanser that science and medical skill have brought to light.” Sufferers from Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of any kind are solicited to give it a trial to test its value. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.

—ADVT.

Physical Characters—Colour: pale yellow-green, opacity moderate.
Reaction—Neutral.

	Parts per 100,000
Total solid matters in Solution.....	15
(a) Volatile	7
(b) Fixed	8
Appearance on Ignition—Slight charring.	
Total Hardness	9.5
(a) Temporary	5.5
(b) Permanent	44
Chlorine.....	2.7
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.04
Free Ammonia	0.18
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.03
Poisonous Metals	Nil.
Nitrites	Nil.
Phosphates	Trace
Salphates	Trace

Bacteriological Examination.—There were 120 micro-organisms to the cubic centimetre. Ratio of those liquefying to those not liquefying gelatine 1: 9.

Report on Analysis.—A sample of well-filtered water of good degree of bacteriological purity.

Sanitary Work.

Complaints of insanitary conditions received from the Public	19
Complaints of insanitary conditions received from Officers of the Health Department	29
Written intimations issued for sanitary amendments	4
Notices of intention to proceed served ..	6
Summonses	0
Rooms disinfected after infectious disease ..	31
Articles of clothing, bedding, etc., disinfected by steam	1423
Rooms whitewashed	9
Defective drainage amended	24
Insanitary latrines and urinals rendered healthy	4
Insanitary ditches, ponds, and creeks rendered healthy	5
Night-soil pits and kongs abolished	35
Exposed coffined corpses removed and buried	1
Smoke nuisances suppressed	0
Offensive trade processes amended	2
Borgar boat removed	10
Other unhealthy conditions amended.....	6

Licensed Laundries.

Laundry.	Situation.
Charlie	Tongshan Road.
Shanghai Washing Co. ...	Carter Road.
Yang Shing Washing Co. ...	Chungking Road.
Shz Sung Washing Co. ...	Weihsaiwei Road.
Yung Sung Washing Co. ...	Yates Road.
Dong Foo Washing Co. ...	North Honan Road.
Lee Zung Shung	“
Van Woo	“
Quin Yuen	“
Ying Yet Lee	“
Yah Kee	“
Zing Zung Kee	“
Union	“
Wong Zing Chong	Haining Road.
International	Range Road.
Yah Sing	Woosung Road.
Ching Kee	“
Ju Kong Jao	“
Chapoo	Chapoo Road.
Miller	Miller Road.
N. Y. K.	North Szechuen Road.
Jim	Seward Road.
Wo Yue	“
Yu Shing	“
D. Tsung Foo	“
Mer Shing	“
Ah Leon	“
George	“
Jim	Sing-kei-pang Road.
Sze Zung Kee	Tongshan Road.
Ah Fong	“
Ah Kee	“
Yung Woo	“
Ah Wire	Dent Road.
Ah Kiang	“
Old Ah Foo	“
Jackson	“
Big Sam	“

Licensed Dairies.

Dairymen.	Situation.
R. W. Shaw	The Farm.
F. G. Keeling	St. George's Farm.
Mrs. Robinson	Swiss Farm.
Mrs. Flood	Farfield Dairy.
Mrs. Grandon	Yangtszepoo Farm.
T. J. Rowland	Home Farm.
D. W. Crawford	Sicawai Road.
A. Culty	French Camp.
E. L. Collingwood	Paoshan Dairy.
Hung Fei	Bubbling Well Road.
Sing Kee	“
Yuen Sang	“
Yah Kee	Sinza Road.
Yet Hing	“
Kong Kee	“
Tzun Chee	“
Hop Shing	“
Zee Butler	Burkill Road.
Yah Loong Shing	Avenue Road.
Lai Woo	French Creek.
Dong Hing	Li Hongkew.
Mo Hung Sing	“
Kong Zung	North Szechuen Road.
Ah Kwai	Shanghai Dairy.
Yong Shu Fong	Haining Road.
Chiun Chun	Yangtszepoo Dairy.
Yat Sing	Woosung Road.
Sing Shing	Markham Road.

Licensed Butchers, Poultry, Game, and Vegetable Dealers.

Butchers.	Situation.
Yah Tai	Maloo Market.
Tsin Tai	“
Koong Kee	“
Hop Fong	“
Hong Kee	“
L. Hopkins	Ningpo Road.
Yue Shing	Tiendong Road.
Tsin Tsiaing	“
Yun Cheong	“
Chang Kee	Woosung Road.
Yhung Kee	Market Road.
Man Woo	“
S. Abraham	“
General Supply Co. ...	Broadway.
W. Fütterer	“
Fook Loong	Woosung Road.
R. Neumann	Astor Road.

Vegetable & Game Dealers.	Situation.
Yak Fong	Maloo Market.
Ching Kee	“
Shun Maw	“
Zung Maw	“
Yak Yuen	“
Nie Maw	“
Tai Maw	“
Chen Kee	“
Han Maw	Tiendong Road.
Quin Kee	“
Cheng Kee	Market Road.

Slaughter-House and Cattle-Shed Returns.

	Slaughtered.	Rejected at Slaughter-house.	Passed for Slaughter from Cattle-sheds.	Passed for Export from Cattle-sheds.	Rejected at Cattle-sheds.
Oxen	2,244	16	2,244	4	0
Sheep	2,528	5	2,528	85	1
Calves	347	1	347	0	0
Pigs	285	0	0	0	0

Victoria Nursing Home.

Cases Admitted into the Home	16
Discharged	17
Died	2
Remaining last day of month	24
Nursed outside the Home	2
Daily visits	0
Nursing pre-engagements	2

SUMMARY OF GENERAL MUNICIPAL RATE FOREIGN SEPTEMBER QUARTER.

	1904.		1903.		1902.	
	No. of Houses.	Rental Assessment.	No. of Houses.	Rental Assessment.	No. of Houses.	Rental Assessment.
		Tls.		Tls.		Tls.
Central District	522	1,127,634	539	995,393	533	849,777
Northern do.	930	579,586	834	477,907	757	394,628
Eastern do.	437	448,170	358	348,817	248	279,204
Western do.	440	553,356	364	398,740	316	327,736
Total	2,329	2,708,746	2,095	2,220,857	1,854	1,851,345
Occupied by Foreigners ..	1,834	2,362,061	1,720	1,917,066	1,611	1,681,076
do. „ Natives	138	202,152	117	182,440	94	139,740
do. „ „	158		131		123	
Unoccupied	201	144,533	127	121,351	26	50,529
Total	2,329	2,708,746	2,095	2,220,857	1,854	1,851,345
Tax collected @ 10%		Tls.		Tls.		Tls.
Central District		27,656		23,749		20,818
Northern do.		13,208		10,868		9,534
Eastern do.		10,179		8,013		6,610
Western do.		11,927		9,028		7,887
Total		62,970		51,653		44,849

E. L. ALLEN,
Acting Overseer of Taxes.

Report.

THE PERAK SUGAR CULTIVATION CO., LD.

Report for the Nineteenth Annual General Meeting, to be held at the offices of the company, No. 22, Kiangse Road, on Monday, 19th December, 1904, at 4 p.m.

The Directors submit the following report for the twelve months ending 30th September, 1904 :—

CROP.—Gular Estate.—The area under cane as stated in last year's report was 1,627.25 orlongs : of this, canes have been cropped from 1,542.75 orlongs, leaving 84.50 orlongs to be carried over to next crop. The output of Sugar was piculs 56,072.93, giving an average of piculs 36.6 per orlong (1.6 tons per acre); the proportion of No. 1 sugar was 94.8 per cent, and the whole output realised an average net price of \$6.48 per picul.

Klompong Estate.—The area cropped has been 829.75 orlongs, producing piculs 33,468.30 of Basket Sugar, an average of piculs 40.33 per orlong. The average price realised for this sugar was \$3.33 net per picul.

LABOUR.—For the greater part of the season the supply of labour has been quite inadequate to the requirements of the estates, with the result that the cultivation has suffered from the want of sufficient attention, and it has been found impossible to extend the area under cane at Klompong to correspond with the capacity of the plant, which is capable of

dealing with about 1,200 orlongs as against 877½ already planted for next season. The difficulty is one which has been experienced in a more or less degree by all the sugar estates, and is due chiefly to the extensive Government works in progress, and to the failure on the part of the Government to import sufficient coolies for these works, the Government contractors avoiding the initial expense by offering higher wages to time-expired coolies on the various estates. The Company has imported during the season 755 new coolies at a cost of \$33,000; 635 of these arrived on the estate during the last four months of the season, under two and three years' contracts, and a proportion of the cost of importation has therefore been carried forward as a charge on next year's account. The latest reports state that the supply of labour is now ample.

RUBBER PLANTATION.—The reports with regard to this continue to be satisfactory. The manager expects to be able to start tapping—about 1,000 trees—next year. About 20,000 trees have been planted out and are doing well. About 15,000 will be ready for tapping in the year 1907.

CROP 1904-1905.—Gula Estate.—The area under cane for this crop is 1,393.75 orlongs, of which 622.50 orlongs are under lease to Cane Contractors. The whole output has been sold under forward contracts at prices which may be expected to realise an average of \$6.45 net per picul.

Klompong Estate.—The area under cane for this crop is 877.50 orlongs, of which 595.00 orlongs are leased to Cane Contractors. The whole output of Basket Sugar has been sold at \$4 per picul.

It is anticipated that the net results of the new season's working will be more

favourable than those of the season under review.

ACCOUNTS.—Working Account for the season shows a profit of Tls. 33,462.29, which is transferred to Profit and Loss Account; the latter account, after deducting interest on debentures and the Manager's Commission of 2½ per cent on the Working Account profit, shows an available balance of Tls. 26,219.18, which the Directors propose to divide as follows :—

	Tls
A Dividend to Shareholders of 5 per cent (Tls. 2.50 per share)	17,500.00
To write off Depreciation from Plant and Buildings—Klompong Estate	5,308.91
To write off Depreciation from Buildings—Gula Estate... ..	1,775.18
Carrying forward	1,635.09
Total	Tls. 26,219.18

DIRECTORS.—Sir Charles Dudgeon resigned his seat on leaving Shanghai, the vacancy being filled by the appointment of Mr. F. Anderson, who retires at the annual meeting, but, being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

AUDITOR.—The accounts have been audited by Mr. Chas. H. King, acting on behalf of Mr. G. R. Wingrove owing to the latter's illness.

Mr. G. R. Wingrove offers himself for re-election.

Shanghai, 6th December 1904.

WILLIAM D. LITTLE,
Chairman.
LEONARD KERR,
Secretary.

COMPARATIVE TABLE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

GULA ESTATE.				
Season.	Area of Crop.	Total output of Sugar.	Sugar per Orlong.	Average Net Price realised for whole output.
1899-1900	1297.75	61,009.25	47.00	
1900-1901	1301.00	50,887.62	39.10	
*1901-1902	1614.75	61,125.50	37.80	
1902-1903	1401.50	50,994.82	36.40	
1903-1904	1532.75	56,072.93	36.60	
				\$
1899-1900	79.5	20.5	6.25	
1900-1901	80.0	20.0	6.40	
*1901-1902	75.5	24.5	6.50	
1902-1903	84.6	15.4	6.16	
1903-1904	94.8	5.2	6.48	

*13 months.

KLOMPONG ESTATE.—Basket Sugar.

Season.	Area of Crop.	Total output of Sugar.	Sugar per Orlong.	Average Net Price realised.
	Orlongs.	Pcls.	Pcls.	\$
*1901-1902	628.00	30,877.80	50.00	3.40
1902-1903	824.75	37,291.94	45.20	3.38
1903-1904	829.75	33,468.30	40.33	3.33

*First year.

STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES AND ASSETS on the 30th September 1904.

Dr.		Tls.
Liabilities.		
Capital	...	350,000.00
Reserve fund	...	100,000.00
Debtenture loan @ 7% authorised issue	...	200,000.00
Unissued	...	12,900.00
		187,100.00
Interest payable on debentures to 30th September	5,457.08	
Less—Interest due on investments	1,736.46	
		3,720.62
Accounts outstanding	...	516.57
Unclaimed dividends	...	2,431.25
Balance of profit and loss account	...	26,219.18
		669,987.62

Cr.		Tls.
Assets.		
Land.—Book Value of Gula Estate per last account	203,660.95	
Cost of additions and extensions during season	306.46	
		203,967.41
Book Value of Klompeng Estate per last account	50,799.12	
Cost of additions and extensions during season	1,475.00	
		52,274.12
		256,241.53

Plant.—Book Value of Gula Machinery per last account	102,881.45
Cost of additions during season	46.65
	102,928.10

Book Value of Klompeng Machinery per last account	83,198.27
Less—Depreciation written off	4,148.27
	79,050.00

Cost of additions during season	13.28
	79,063.28
	181,991.38

Buildings.—Book Value of Buildings on Gula Estate per last account	34,221.53
Cost of New Buildings added during season	1,213.65
	35,435.18

Book Value of Buildings on Klompeng Estate per last account	26,101.61
Less—Depreciation written off	1,301.61
	24,800.00
Cost of New Buildings added during season	2,245.63
	27,045.63

Launch.—Book Value per last account	9,260.00
Furniture at Estates and Shanghai	3,057.82
Investments.—Invested in Debtenture Bonds	81,325.00
Advances to Cane Contractors	13,275.46
Stores in Stock and Estate Stud	17,578.24
Unexpired Insurance on Buildings and Machinery	1,749.24
Rubber Plantation	9,217.35
Cash in Penang and Shanghai	33,810.79
	669,987.62

STATEMENT OF WORKING ACCOUNT FOR THE SEASON ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER 1904.

Dr.		Tls.
To General Charges—		
Estate	3,067.71	
Penang	1,261.99	
Shanghai	449.27	
		4,778.97
„ Launch Expenses	6,103.14	
„ Hospital Charges	9,503.98	
„ Salaries	39,327.11	
„ Manufacturing Expenses	59,267.74	
„ Labour	67,875.40	
„ Upkeep of Buildings, Repairs and Renewals	27,552.13	
„ Cultivation (Manure, etc.)	18,646.21	
„ Fire Insurance	3,854.48	
„ Directors' and Auditor's Fees, less Transfer Fees collected	2,235.96	
		239,145.12
„ Balance, transferred to Profit and Loss Account	33,462.29	
		272,607.41

Cr.		Tls.
By Proceeds from sale of Sugar, Molasses and Rum	272,607.41	
		272,607.41

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.		Tls.
To Interest on Debtenture Loan—		
1st October 1903 to 30th September 1904—at 7 per cent p.a. on Tls. 187,100	13,097.00	
Less—Interest on Investments	4,223.54	
		8,873.46
„ Manager's Commission, 2½ per cent on Working a/c		836.55
„ Balance		26,219.18
		35,929.19

Cr.		Tls.
By Balance of Profit and Loss Account		
1902-1903	1,456.76	
Add—Profit on Estimated value of Produce in Stock on 30th September 1903	1,010.14	
		2,466.90
„ Balance of Working Account, as above		33,462.29
		35,929.19

Shanghai, 6th December, 1904.

LEONARD KERR,

Secretary.

I hereby certify that I have examined the Books, Vouchers and Securities kept by the Secretary and find this statement in accordance therewith.

CHAS. H. KING,

Auditor.

Amusements.

THE DEUTSCHER KONZERT VEREIN.

Second Concert.

The first of the "extra" concerts to be given by the band of the Third Marine Battalion of Tsingtao took place last Friday at the Lyceum, which was rather more than half-filled. Shanghai apparently has not reached the point yet of preferring its "music" undiluted, even when that music be so excellently rendered as by Herr Wile's band. We understand at all events that the bookings for the final concert on Tuesday next, when there are to be vocal and other solos in the programme, are already better than those for this intermediary entertainment.

The programme last night was showy rather than stirring. Except for the overture to Tannhäuser, which was rightly given the best place at the end of the first part and which resulted in a double recall for the conductor, there was nothing to touch the deeper emotions, though to interest the lover of music there was plenty. We have already said of the band that it is capably balanced and firmly controlled, as one would expect in a military combination. It may be noted that it is particularly strong in its wind instruments, the strings appearing somewhat ordinary by comparison.

There is a noticeable absence of cornets, for which the four horns and the four trombones are a marked compensation. The eight numbers on the programme ranged from the clear flame-like torch dance of Meyerbeer, to the characteristically northern island melodies of Svendsen, taking in by the way the merry brilliance of the overture to "Mignon" and the subtly beautiful variations of Schubert's charming air "Die Forelle." The final number was a fantasia on Paderewski's opera "Manru," a thunderous medley, wherein the bandsmen exerted themselves bravely, but which scarcely seems worth the labour and pains expended on it.

The German concert week came to a conclusion on Tuesday night and the Tsingtao band, which has been its chief attraction, left for the north on Wednesday. Their visit has given a most enjoyable stimulus to the opening season, and the Konzert Verein may happily be congratulated on the amount of public support accorded to them in their enterprise. There were vacant seats in the Lyceum Theatre Tuesday night, but the gaps were not numerous, and considering that the concerts came necessarily so speedily after each other, musical Shanghai rose unexpectedly well to its opportunity.

As was fitting in a farewell performance, Tuesday night's programme was of a more distinctly popular character than either of those preceding it. The general effect inevitably was somewhat disjointed, but it was the disjointedness of a "benefit" night in which all the numbers are starred, and the only danger for the audience is an over-satiety of good things. Of the band contributions the most popular, and perhaps the best played, was the famous first suite from Grieg's music to "Peer Gynt." The theatrical effects in the dance in the hall of the mountain kings, strenuously and faithfully reproduced, worked the audience up to the pitch of demanding an encore, though the programme was already lengthy. The gracefully joyous measures of Anitra's dance, and the solemn strains of the funeral march had previously won their full measure of approbation. Of the three movements from Mozart's symphony and fugue (Op. 41), the allegro vivace was spoiled by uncertainty on the part of the violins; the fugue was given splendidly. It was unfortunate that, although the concert did not commence till ten minutes late, there were several late-comers thoughtless enough to enter during the piano string passages of the prelude to the fifth act of Reinecke's opera "Manfred," a number of which we were sorry to lose a note. The Wagner item chosen to conclude the programme was the entrance march of the gods from "The Rhinegold," for which the band hardly possesses sufficient strength, and which lacked somewhat in carrying conviction. Gade's overture "Echoes of Ossian" was carefully rendered.

Mrs. Grove's pianoforte soli in the second part were admirably selected and equally admirably played. The audience would willingly have had more, though the pianist, suffered, as Mrs. Cochrane did at the former concert, from an incredibly poor and tinkling instrument. Liszt's "Dedication" was undoubtedly the gem; with all the attractiveness of its melody and rippling accompaniment Mrs. Grove's own little piece "Gretchen at the Spinning Wheel" is a trifling monotonous. Mr. Meyer, spite of

his recent illness, has seldom been heard in better voice. He gave a triumphant rendering of the masterly prologue to Leoncavallo's opera "Il Bajazzo," and in its most exacting passages always had something in reserve. The orchestral accompaniment had been specially rearranged by Bandmaster Wille with very gratifying effect, giving greater prominence to the voice. Owing to a regrettable indisposition which prevented Mrs. Cochrane from taking her promised part as accompanist, Mr. Meyer had to abandon his two songs in the second part, but substituted a French love song, in which he had the assistance of Mr. Vinay, who entirely deserved the bouquet presented to him.

CONCERT AT THE ASIATIC SOCIETY'S HALL.

The pupils of the Misses Wilmer Harris gave their annual concert at the hall of the Royal Asiatic Society on Wednesday afternoon. Numbers of relations and friends of the young performers were present; the hall being so crowded that many had to sit or stand in the passage.

The programme opened with an orchestral selection by eleven violins and a piano; all the violins being played by young ladies. Space forbids our mentioning item by item the programme which followed. Suffice it to say that no less than twenty-four selections were rendered on various instruments by children of all ages and sizes. The smaller children, if their play was not quite so brilliant as that of their elders, were not stinted as regarded applause.

The hall was tastefully decorated with evergreen and bamboo. The only pity was that the Misses Harris had not taken the Union Church Hall or the Lyceum, as the Asiatic Hall was far too small.

When we mention that over fifty pupils took part in the concert, our readers will doubtless agree with us that the careful training of so many children reflects great credit on their teachers.

SPORT.

Association Football.

SHANGHAI FOOTBALL CLUB v.

ENGINEERS' FOOTBALL CLUB.

In their match against the Football Club, the Engineers had a very weak team, and were consequently no match for their opponents, and lost by the margin of five goals to nil. The game was not interesting, being too one-sided. The combination on the part of the Football Club was again excellent, MacPhail, Matthews, Tyack, and Morley showing up well, while Barry and Ollerdesen played a very safe game at full back.

SHANGHAI FOOTBALL CLUB, "A" TEAM v. NONDESCRIPTS.

This was also a very one-sided game, the Nondescripts having only a very elementary knowledge of the game as it should be played. It gave, however, a good opportunity for practice to the S. F. C. second string, with ample opportunity for practice in shooting, in which department there is still considerable room for improvement. The S. F. C.

won by 7 goals to nil, the goals being scored by Ramsay (2), T. Veitch (2), Kemp (2), and H. MacPhail.

SHANGHAI RECREATION CLUB v. H. M. S. IPHIGENIA.

The most closely contested game of the afternoon was that between the Recreation Club and H. M. S. Iphigenia, but in this case also, if the Recs. had had their full team, the match must have been one-sided. It was an even game throughout and very fast, the ball travelling from one end of the field to the other time after time in quick succession. In the middle of the first half Milner scored for the Recreation Club, after a pretty dribble down field and good centring by Garner. This was the only point scored during the game, although both goals were hotly bombarded time after time.

Rugby Football.

SHANGHAI RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB v.

SHANGHAI ROWING CLUB.

The Rugby match on Saturday between the above-mentioned teams was not up to the standard of previous games, and though the teams seemed on paper to be well matched, the result was an easy victory for the Rowing Club. Play in the first half was fairly even, it being mainly a forward game. Had the Rugby Club's backs been given a fair chance, they must have scored, but they were badly fed, and the only point scored in the first half was a try to the Rowing Club, scored by J. M. D. Thomas, near the touch line, which Marechal failed to convert. In the second half the Rowing Club soon asserted their superiority, and in quick succession Lancaster (2) and Cameron scored tries, Crombie converting on each occasion. Then Billings, for the Rugby Club, made an opening for himself, and passing at the right moment to Wheen, the latter scored the only try for the Club, Billings being unsuccessful in the goal kick. Soon afterwards Cameron scored again for the Rowing Club, who ran out winners by 3 goals and 2 tries (21 points) to 1 try (3 points).

Saturday's Paper Hunt.

There were not quite so many spectators at the start as there were on the previous Saturday, but this was made up for by the large crowd that collected near the finish. About seventy riders started, but not a few failed to come in, first because the paper was scantily laid and secondly because there was a false trail near the finish which deceived many of the riders. Messrs. Pitcairn and Dallas laid the paper and set a pretty stiff course. Mr. Potter won the heavy weight prize. The card read as follows:—

Mr. G. E. Pappier	on Benedict.
" I. Jones	" Otter.
" J. A. Hayes	" Circus.
" F. W. Potter	" Blizzard.
" A. J. H. Carill	" Marvel.
" F. L. Fearon	" St. George.
" C. Ebbeke	" Faith.
" E. R. Hooper	" Seydlitz.

Shooting—"B" Company, S.V.C.

The Monthly Cups of "B" Company were shot for on Saturday. The morning competitors were handicapped with a bad light, but the conditions in the afternoon left nothing to be desired. In "A" Class Pte. Hill was the winner with the excellent score of 66 out of a possible 70, whilst Col.-Sergt. Pearson headed the "B" Class and obtained his second win.

Ranges—600 and 700 yards. Position prone. Targets and scoring—Bisley. The following were the highest scores:—

Name.	600 yds.	700 yds.	Total.	H'cap.	Net Score.
"A" Class.					
Pte. O. Hill	34	32	66	5	61
Sergt. A. Hill	22	34	56	0	56
Pte. Sandys	26	30	56	0	56
" Large	27	28	55	2	53
Capt. Trueman	23	31	54	5	49
Sergt. Gordon	19	23	42	0	42
"B" Class.					
Col.-Sergt. Pearson	27	29	56	2	54
Corp. Chandler	19	27	46	2	44
Pte. Adams	30	16	46	4	42
" Bell	21	17	38	0	38

Shooting—Mounted Infantry.

The monthly cups were shot for on Sunday in spite of the bad weather prevailing. Lieut. Hudson won the cup for the third time and thus became entitled to retain it. The following were the scores:—

	300 yds.	500 yds.	H'cap.	Tol.
Lieut. Hudson	21	26	6	41
Sergt. Wood	19	22	0	41
Pte. Barnes	8	27	0	35
" Bassano	17	12	0	29
" Bennett	12	15	0	27
" Kaye	6	21	0	27
" Symonds	17	12	3	26

Correspondence.

THE C. I. P. O.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Your recent editorial with regard to the discrimination of the Chinese postal authorities against the British and American post offices in Shanghai, brought attention to a matter which is becoming more vital daily, and it may be of interest to note in your columns the latest form of this passive (?) resistance. On the 17th of October a lady in Tungchou mailed a package of letters for the U. S. addressed under cover to the United States Postal Agency, Shanghai. A week ago this package was returned to her from the "Returned Letter Office," where it had been opened and examined, with the information that "there is no such place in Shanghai"! Comment is needless in this instance.

We are informed that at Kiukiang (and presumably elsewhere) residents are not permitted to mail covers addressed to the U. S. Postal Agency or U. S. Consulate! This would seem to exclude private correspondence with the Consul-General himself. Does it not seem that the Ministers should remind the Chinese authorities of the existence of both the British and American post offices in Shanghai, and of our right to mail covers to each? It is hard to understand why British subjects and American citizens should suffer penalties of excessive, unjust, and illegal charges and of delayed, rejected, and returned mail matter, through rights accorded by the two Governments. And it is equally hard to understand what pig-headed, short-sighted official has issued the silly instructions which are acted upon in these cases. Let me reveal to the Chinese Post Office officials the secret that many friends now send their letters under cover to various houses here for remailing at home rates. To be consistent let them also discriminate against these firms and state that no such places exist in Shanghai—then will Rome howl. If the Chinese post-

office is a public convenience (or inconvenience) with printed rules as to what may and may not be mailed, it certainly cannot make exceptions as to whom the mail shall be addressed, if the address be properly written and the rates of postage fully paid. In the case of letters received from home at domestic rates and re-forwarded fully prepaid at Chinese domestic rates, by what right may the post-office officials regard any other stamp or stamps that may or may not be on the covers previously? These letters are brought here at the expense of the foreign Governments and the Chinese rules are fully met, yet they are taxed heavily on delivery. Please agitate the Ministers in Peking until they are willing to engage for a few days the Fool-killer and turn him loose in the Headquarters of the Chinese Postal Administration in Peking. There is much for him to do.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I am, etc.,

G. F. C.

12th December.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Referring to the complaint of "C.F.G." in this morning's "News" regarding a letter addressed to this Postal Agency and returned to the sender in Tungchou, I have investigated the matter and find that the postage to Shanghai was not fully prepaid and that this Agency did not pay the amount taxed as no fund is available for such purpose. Therefore the letter was returned to the sender.

In the few cases brought to my notice from outposts where letters for this Agency have been refused, the error has been promptly corrected by the authorities of the C. I. P. O. as soon as brought to their attention.

Will you please publish this in justice to the C. I. P. O.

I am, etc.,

JOHN GOODNOW.

U. S. Consulate-General,

Shanghai, 13th December.

Miscellaneous.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(BY TELEGRAPH FROM PEKING.)

SPECIALLY TRANSLATED FOR THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.")

7th December.

The Commissioner of Public Works and Gendarmerie has denounced to us a certain Hsiang Shan, member of the Imperial Clan, who has been found guilty of opening a pawnbroking den of the lowest order and prays that commands be issued by the Throne that the said culprit be handed over for trial before a joint-tribunal of the Board of Punishments and the Imperial Clan Court. Now these pawnbroking dens of the kind kept by the accused Imperial Clansman Hsiang Shan form one of the worst evils, from the effects of which the poorest amongst our subjects suffer, since most excessive interest is charged on goods and effects pawned there and victims are unmercifully fleeced without the least compunction on the part of the villains exercising the trade. In consequence of this successive Imperial decrees were issued sternly prohibiting such dens with the result that there has since been some abatement in the matter. In spite of the Imperial prohibition it would seem, however, that the Imperial Clansman Hsiang Shan has been knowingly guilty of the crime of breaking the law, continuing the nefarious trade in secret. If an example therefore is not made of this culprit it would be both impossible to assuage the sufferings of our poorest subjects as well as to clear the atmosphere of such rogues. We hereby command that the said Hsiang Shan, his assistant, Li Yi-ts'ing, and others associated with them in the nefarious trade, be forthwith handed over to the Board of Punishments, which in conjunction with the Imperial Clan Court, shall make a strict investigation of the matter and mete out to the culprits the penalties which they richly deserve, thereby serving as an example and a warning to others desirous of following their evil trade.

8th December.

As the Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese Turkestan Army (with headquarters at Kashgar), General Yü Hu-ên's reputation is of the mediocre kind, he is summarily commanded to return at once to his native province and shall not be permitted to linger in Kashgaria on receipt of this edict. The Board of War is moreover commanded to see to it that our edict is obeyed by the said Yu Hu-ên.

11th December.

The other day Hsi Lin, Keeper of the Seals and Censor, denounced the incapability of the officials of Honan province, where the preservation of the peace and the enforcement of law and order are exceedingly lax, as exemplified by the wide-spread disorders raised by members of the Hoshu Hui secret society in that province. We therefore sent instructions to Yuan Shih-k'ai to investigate the charges and report at once to us (Honan is Viceroy Yuan Shih-k'ai's native province—Translator). Yuan Shih-k'ai's report is now before us, in which he states that the principal leaders of the said Hoshu Hui have all been captured by the Government troops, while their followers have since been scattered.

PURE BLOOD

Pure Blood and a Clear Skin are impossible when the Liver, Stomach and Kidneys are sluggish or irregular. Holloway's Pills are exactly what is needed—a gentle but thorough corrective. They regulate the biliary secretions and promptly cure Headaches and Indigestion.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS & OINTMENT

Holloway's Ointment, in conjunction with the Pills is unmatched as a Skin Cure, speedily removing all disfiguring blotches, pimples and blackheads. It is a sure remedy for Obsolete Sores and Old Wounds, as well as for Rheumatism, Lumbago, &c., while in cases of Chest and Throat Troubles it gives almost magical relief. Prices 1/1½ and 2/9 per box of Pills or pot of Ointment.

CLEAR SKIN

The officials of the province, generally, cannot be excused, however, from the charge of lack of energy and vigilance, and incapability to capture the robbers concerned in plundering the country-side. With reference to the charges against Lang Kuei-lin, Major-General of the Hopei Military Circuit, the memorialist finds that he has not been guilty of the charge of avarice and disregard of his good reputation, but the said Major-General should not have used the soldiers under him to serve as an escort to bring his family to Honan, when they ought to have been occupied in patrolling the country-side and acting as a check against brigands. For this misuse of his men we hereby command that the said Major-General be removed from his post. As to the conduct of Lu Heng-hsiang, district magistrate of Hsinhsianghsien, in taking to himself as concubine the daughter of the petition writer of his yamen, and his neglect to keep a watch upon the conduct of his underlings whose rapacity and eagerness to obtain bribes, etc., have been a by-word throughout the country round about, we hereby command the said magistrate to be cashiered forthwith as a warning to others. We further desire to impress upon Chen Kuei-lung, the Governor of Honan province, the importance of keeping a strict watch on the good government of his province and to use his best efforts in the matter of preserving peace and good order therein. Let the Board concerned take note.

12th December.

(1) Sun Tao-jên, expectant Taotai of Fukien province, is appointed Major-General of the military circuit of Chienning prefecture, in the same province.

(2) Chang Siang-t'ai is appointed Major-general of the Hopei military circuit of Honan province, vice Lang Kuei-lin dismissed.

(3) With reference to the memorial of Lin Shao-nien, Governor of Yunnan province, suggesting the abolition of the Governorship where there happens to be also a Viceroy in the same city, the Department of State Affairs (Chên Wu-ch'ü) and the Board of Civil Appointments having reported favourably on the suggestion, we hereby command that the posts of Governors of Yunnan and Hupeh provinces be forthwith abolished, and their respective duties henceforth undertaken by the Viceroys of Yün-Kuei and Hukuang, respectively.

13th December.

(1) Hsi Liang (Manchu), Acting Viceroy of Szechuan province, is hereby made Substantive Viceroy of same. Wei Kuang-t'ao, Acting Viceroy of the Min-C & provinces, is made Substantive Viceroy of said provinces; while Ting Ché-t'ao is also made Substantive Viceroy of the Yün-Kuei provinces, of which he has hitherto been Acting Viceroy.

(2) Chao Erh-sên (Chinese Bannerman) Substantive Governor of Hunan province and Acting President of the Board of Revenue, is hereby granted the rank of a brevet President of one of the Great Boards of Peking and is retained for service in the Capital. His former post of Governor of Hunan is hereby given to Tuan Fang, Acting Governor of Kiangsu, and Lu Yuan-ting, at present Acting Governor of Hunan province, is ordered to proceed to Soochow to fill Tuan Fang's place as acting Governor of Kiangsu.

(3) Shêng Yun (Manchu), Governor of Shensi, is appointed Governor of Kiangsi province and his post in Hsian (Shensi) is given to Hsia Shih, Governor of Kiangsi.

(4) General Li Chan-chün, Substantive Provincial Commander-in-Chief of South

Kiangsu (Kiangnan), now on sick leave, is ordered to resign said post, which is hereby given to General Yang Chin-lung, the Acting Provincial Commander-in-Chief. Li Ting-min, is appointed Major-General of the Fushan Military Circuit of Kiangsu province, vice Yang Chin-lung, promoted as above.

(5) Lin Shao-nien, Incumbent of the abolished Governorship of Yunnan, is hereby appointed Acting Governor of Kueichow province.

(6) Lou Yun-ch'ün, Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Hunan, is ordered to resign his post, which is hereby given to General Ts'ao Chih-chung.

NOTES ON NATIVE AFFAIRS.

9th December.

Fatalities at the Wednesday Evening Conflagration.

It is generally reported among Chinese that at the fire which started in the Cotton Hong on Hankow Road (between Ch'iang and Hupeh Roads) on Wednesday evening, no fewer than three natives were burned to death. It is stated that the proprietor of the Cotton Hong, an old man, was suffering from a paralytic stroke, which prevented him from leaving the building, whereupon two of his apprentices went upstairs to rescue him. As the fire was raging very fiercely and spreading with great rapidity the whole three of them apparently got suffocated and could not get out. Enquiry at the Police Station, however, elicited the fact that only the charred remains of one native have been so far discovered among the débris.

The Payment of the War Indemnity in Gold.

With reference to the decision of the Central Government, apportioning to the various provinces of the Empire the amounts to be paid by each, by the end of this year, towards making good the money—Tls. 10,400,000—still due the Powers on changing the payment of the War Indemnity to a gold basis, news has been received from Peking to the effect that more than one half of the Viceroys and Governors concerned have professed their inability to pay the sums required from them within the time demanded by the Central Government. As the money must be paid and every day's delay would mean many thousands of taels in interest, Prince Ching, according to a recent Peking letter, suggested to the Emperor at a meeting of the Grand Council the other day, that he could get a temporary loan from a certain foreign Bank of the amount still due from the provinces, on condition that the delinquent provinces give an undertaking to repay the loan within a stated time. His Majesty seemed inclined to listen to Prince Chang's suggestion, but H. E. Chao Erh-sên, the President of the Board of Revenue, strongly opposed the measure, on the ground that China was already greatly overburdened with her foreign debts and that each additional loan was like adding so many more fetters to the Body politic and plunging the Empire into irretrievable bankruptcy. Further that anyone could read from history the lesson that a debtor country is a slave of the creditor Power which has the prerogative moreover of recouping itself by seizing territory in lieu of payment of loan—temporarily, if money be forthcoming to liquidate the debt; perpetually, if the debtor is bankrupt beyond recall. Under these circumstances, therefore, declared the President of the Board of Revenue, he "would respectfully oppose the suggestion made by his Highness the Prince." The question of ways and means

was then laid on the table and the Council broke up without anything definite being arrived at. "Perhaps," remarks our correspondent, "had H. E. Chao Erh-sên and those with him who opposed Prince Ching's suggestion that day, had the least inkling that this alleged 'foreign' loan was in fact money deposited by the Prince himself and the Chief Eunuch, Li Lien-ying, who could get better interest for their money by lending it to the Central Government than by annual deposit in a foreign Bank, the President of the Board of Revenue and his party would not have opposed the suggestion so vigorously."

For the Special Commissioner's Use.

Wei Taotai, Director of the Kiangnan Arsenal, dispatched yesterday one of the largest steam launches of the Arsenal to Wuhu for the use of the Special Commissioner Tieh Liang, who desires a commodious steam launch to take him to Wanchih, Pinghsiang, and other places en route on his quest to discover some suitable spot for the construction of an Arsenal which shall be comparatively safe in the future from foreign attack. It is reported in mandarin circles that Tieh Liang will be able to hand his Imperial Mistress at least eighteen million taels as a result of his mission to the central provinces. How much of this will be devoted to Army Reorganisation remains to be seen.

H. E. Tuan Fang.

governor of this province, left Nanking yesterday in the Chinese cruiser Paoming, and after inspecting en route the various ports and camps, will probably arrive in Shanghai either on Sunday or Monday next.

H. E. Chou Fu.

Acting Viceroy of the Liangking provinces, according to a Nanking dispatch, is expected to proceed to Wuhu in a few days for the purpose of inspecting Wanchih, the proposed site of a new Arsenal. His Excellency, it is further stated, may also go to Kiangsi province to inspect Pinghsiang, the alternative site of the proposed Arsenal.

10th December.

The New Chinese Minister to Corea.

As the term of office of H. E. Hsü T'ai-shêng, Chinese Minister at Seoul, expired last November, at the recommendation of Prince Ching, H. E. Tsêng Kuang-ch'uan, a Metropolitan officer of the 4th grade, has been appointed to succeed H. E. Hsü T'ai-shêng, the decree making the appointment, according to the "Universal Gazette," having been issued on Thursday morning, the 8th instant. H. E. Tsêng Kuang-ch'uan is the nephew and adopted son of the late Marquis Tsêng, former Chinese Minister to Great Britain, where his Excellency the late Minister was quite popular. The new Minister to Corea is better known to Londoners as Lord Kingest Tsêng, he being an attaché of his adopted father's embassy at that time. A fluent speaker of English and French and a sound Chinese scholar, H. E. Tsêng Kuang-ch'uan was the late Li Hung-chang's right-hand man during the peace negotiations in Peking in 1901. For these services Tsêng was promoted from his then rank of first-class secretary of the Board of Works to that of expectant Metropolitan officer of the 4th grade, this making him eligible for the post of a Minister of the second class to a foreign Court. His Excellency was also of much service to the Chinese Treaty Commissioners here during the tariff negotiations last year, when he acted as translator and interpreter for a few months until

the death here of his adopted mother, the late Dowager Marchioness Tseng, mother of the present Marquis Tseng Kuang-lan. An able, patriotic and a progressive official, we may confidently anticipate a most honourable career for his Excellency in the Diplomatic profession he has chosen. His Excellency is about forty years of age.

To Inspect Arsenal Sites.

A Nanking dispatch to hand reports that their Excellencies Chou Fu, Viceroy of the Liangkang provinces, and Tieh Liang, Special High Commissioner of Army Reorganisation, etc. left that city yesterday forenoon for Wuhu to inspect the proposed site for a new Arsenal at Wanchih, a few miles distant from the Wuhu. Wei Taotai, Director of the Kiangnan Arsenal, here accompanied their Excellencies.

A Military Academy,

specially connected with the Army Reorganisation Department, is shortly to be established in Peking, and its Constitution will be on similar lines to that of the Military Academy connected with the Peiyang Administration at Paoting, the provincial capital of Chihli, established in 1902 by Viceroy Yuan Shih-k'ai. The staff of the Paoting Academy consists principally of Japanese professors and tutor assisted by Chinese officers who have had their military education in the schools of Japan.

A Proposed Female Industrial School.

A Peking letter states that several Chinese ladies, wives of high Metropolitan officials, have in prospect the establishment of a female industrial school in Peking where all kinds of needlework, embroidering and silk weaving, the last by means of machinery, are to be taught. As Principal of the proposed school, a Japanese lady expert is to be engaged, who will have charge of a large staff of Chinese and Japanese instructors in the various lines of work contemplated. This new female industrial school will be a means of spreading education among the women of China and its success will encourage similar institutions throughout the empire.

12th December.

The Municipal Gaol for Female Culprits.

Upon the completion of a gaol for culprits the other day by the Municipal Authorities to take the place of the miserable squalid quarters, under the charge of an avaricious and relentless female gaoler, at the Mixed Court, the Magistrate of that tribunal was communicated with, asking that all Chinese females lying under sentence in that Court for offences committed within the Municipal jurisdiction should be transferred to the new gaol. The Magistrate appears to have refused his consent to the change, but Yuan Taotai of this port is apparently much more amenable to reason, for we are informed that, appealed to by the Senior-Consul, his Honour at once sent instructions to the Mixed Court to have the female culprits imprisoned there transferred to the new Municipal Gaol for women. It must be borne in mind that the female gaoler of a Chinese yamen is the possessor of a most lucrative billet, a portion of whose income it may be safe to assume finds its way up to higher quarters, so that under the circumstances there need be no surprise at the non-success of a first attempt to what would be the virtual abolition of a post

like this. Of those unfortunates whose evil star had put them into the clutches of these female gaolers, there are well-authenticated cases where a victim, on showing inability, or perhaps obstinacy, in refusing to pay for the privilege and, comparatively speaking, luxury of being allowed to sleep on a bed of pine boards, has been tied to a plank, standing edge-wise, and compelled to lie on it until she promised to "pay the fees." This we know is only a comparatively mild torture exercised upon indigent delinquents.

Imitation the Sincerest Form of Flattery.

A scheme is, we learn, on foot, fostered by influential gentry and local notables, to build up the suburbs outside the South-gate of the Native City here after the style and manner of the International Settlements, to be governed by a native Municipal Council and controlled by the Taotai, on the same basis as the Municipal Government of these Settlements is under the control of the Consular Body. We further understand that the Municipal by-laws and regulations of the Settlements have been translated into Chinese, which, with a petition from the local gentry and backed up by a commendatory dispatch of Yuan Taotai, are to be sent up to their Excellencies Governor Tuan Fang and Viceroy Chou Fu, for their approval and consent.

The Shanghai-Nanking Railway.

A copy of the regulations of the Hu-Ning Railway was received yesterday by the Shanghai Taotai from H.E. Sheng Kung-pao, Director General of the Railway, with instructions to have them copied out and distributed to the officials of the cities between Shanghai and Nanking through whose jurisdictions the new railway will pass, for guidance of the officials and people concerned.

Military Progress.

A Peking dispatch states that H.E. Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai, who is a member of the Committee on Army Reorganisation of which Prince Ching is the President, has ordered the establishment of a School of Military Strategy and Tactics in connection with the Military Academy to be started next spring by the Army Reorganisation Department in Peking. The principal instructors of this School are to be engaged from Japan and the Japanese Government will be asked to select the necessary officers for the Chinese Government.

Big guns for the Northern Army.

It is reported from Tientsin that no less than forty-eight twelve-centimetre (4½-inch) guns with sufficient ammunition have lately arrived at Tangku from Europe and that thirty-six of them are to be for the forces stationed in the vicinity of Yungpingfu, near the Great Wall, while the remaining twelve guns are destined for the troops at Paoting. The Northern Army, under the supreme command of Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai, we hear therefore, now possesses no less than one hundred and eight of these guns.

Fighting for Possession.

With the uncertainty that still hangs over Manchuria and Corea it is pathetic, if not amusing, to hear that the two Governments of Peking and Seoul are just now squabbling over an island in the Yalu river, namely, the large island between the Korean city of Yichou (Wiju) and the Chinese city of Antung. So far it is only a wordy strife between the two Governments, but the question is: should Corea send a dozen of

her valiant soldiers to take possession of the island what will the Chinese at Antung do?

New Abattoirs.

A company has recently been formed for the scientific killing of pigs and accelerated service of delivery of the carcasses to the retail vendors in the Settlement. At present the work is carried out in a very promiscuous manner and the primitive method of delivery, besides being a nuisance to vehicular and passenger traffic, is certainly not conducive to cleanliness. Messrs. O. A. Van Tricht & Co. of Shanghai, who are mainly responsible for this new departure, are now erecting a fine building on the Kashing Road at the junction of the Hongkew Creek and a tributary, from their own design, and when this is finished there will be facilities enough to handle all the pigs that come to the Settlement. There are two slaughter-houses side by side and between is the hanging-space. The receiving yard is capable of holding eight hundred head and five hundred can be disposed of daily between the hours of 4 and 10 a.m. The two houses each contain fourteen fire-places and accessories for scalding and particular attention has been given to the drainage system which will render the surroundings as wholesome as is possible. The position of the premises will enable the dealers to float their cargoes right alongside the wharf which is to be erected, and closed vans will be used to carry out the distribution of the carcasses to the retail purveyors in the Settlement. Altogether over five mow of land has been utilised and the building which is of brick and stone-faced consists, beside the slaughter houses, of extensive series of offices for the large clerical staff necessary to supervise the work, and living quarters for the butchers. No detail apparently has been overlooked by the contractors and the native population should certainly be benefited by the innovation.

13th December.

A Reform Delayed.

With reference to the question of the transfer of female prisoners in the Mixed Court to the new Municipal gaol for female culprits, we understand that although the Shanghai Taotai has shown himself agreeable to the change, his Honour has asked that the proposed transfer be delayed a while in order that he may first report the matter to the Viceroy at Nanking and the Governor of this province at Soochow.

H. E. Tuan Fang,

Governor of this province, is expected to arrive here from Nanking to-day. It is stated that it is possible that his Excellency may remain in Shanghai for a day or two before proceeding to Soochow in order to investigate matters here to which his attention has been drawn.

A Government Victory in Kuangsi.

The "Sinwén-pao" publishes a telegram from Kueilin, the provincial capital of Kuangsi, to the effect that the Government troops under General Huang Chung-li obtained a great victory on the 9th inst. near Liuchoufu over a large body of well-armed insurgents under the leadership of a well-known rebel called Lu A-fa, and that, after a battle which was maintained with great determination on both sides, the insurgents were defeated with much slaughter and their leader captured. This Chief is an important man to capture, as he and his followers

For it has been discovered that a certain Russophile mandarin, high in office in Mukden, has even gone so far as to order a large quantity of grain from the inhabitants of Shuanzhongpao, west of Mukden, for the special use of the Russian forces.

Vice-Commissioner Wang Kai-kah at St. Louis.

Several months ago there appeared in some of the native newspapers published at Tientsin certain scurrilous attacks upon H. E. Wang Kai-kah, the Vice-Commissioner for China at the St. Louis Exposition, reflecting upon his management of the Chinese exhibits there with vindictive aspersions upon his character as an official. In an English paper such groundless assertions would be resented as libellous. The writer of the articles in question knowing the ignorance and credulity of the Chinese masses evidently sought this manner of inflicting as much damage as possible upon an innocent gentleman, against whom he wished to vent his spite. It has now transpired that the disseminator of the article is a man named Chin Tsui-k'ang sent last year by the Viceroy at Nanking to visit the Exposition and obtain his education in this manner if possible. Evidently Mr. Chin Tsui-k'ang, thought that being sent by the Nanking Viceroy, he bore upon his person the whole majesty of the Liangkiang Viceroyalty and as such demanded the reverence and obedience of every one, not excepting even his Imperial Highness Prince Pu Lun, the Chief Commissioner and representative of Mr. Chin Tsui-k'ang's country. Hence when in Shanghai at the time the Prince was passing through en route to the United States Mr. Chin Tsui-k'ang demanded financial assistance from his Highness which, it is needless to say, was promptly refused. Getting to St. Louis he was apparently astounded by the high prices asked by the hotels there, and accordingly on the score of economy demanded from the Chinese Commissioner the right and privilege to make the Chinese Government Pavilion within the Exposition grounds his residence during his stay in St. Louis. This of course was against the rules of the Exposition, even Prince Pu Lun himself being compelled to reside in a hotel. This, however, made Mr. Chin Tsui-k'ang violently angry, declaring that the whole world was conspiring against the dignity and majesty of the Liangkiang Viceroy, as exemplified by Mr. Chin Tsui-k'ang, but as no one in St. Louis seemed to care for his dignity and majesty, Mr. Chin Tsui-k'ang shifted his wrath upon the innocent shoulders of Vice-Commissioner Wang Kai-kah, and declared that instead of using the entire grant of 750,000 upon the Chinese buildings the Vice-Commissioner had pocketed a large portion of the amount. Mr. Chin Tsui-k'ang evidently forgot to take into consideration such important matters as cost of passage to and from every one concerned; wages for workmen, salaries of secretaries and attendants; house rent, food, carriages and entertainments which are really more expensive than many other items put together. To show what Vice-Commissioner Wang Kai-kah and his colleagues actually accomplished in their difficult and onerous work in it is only necessary to read an impartial account of the Chinese Exhibit at St. Louis by Mr. Theodore Hardee, Esq., Assistant Secretary of the Exposition, which appeared in the New York "Sunday Times" of the 28th of August. We quote some extracts in reference to the exhibit, in behalf of which the Chinese Government set apart a special appropriation of \$15,750,000.

"The Imperial Chinese Pavilion stands on a plot of ground measuring 15,825 square feet, between the pavilions of the British and Belgian Governments and near the

Administration Building. It is an exact reproduction of a part of the palace of his Highness Prince Pu Lun, the Chinese Commissioner General to the World's Fair. The pavilion is an elegant structure of the sumptuous type—highly decorated, colourful and airy in appearance. The group consists of three buildings—the main hall and two wings which face each other.

"The main hall is the reception room. The whole front is made of carved panels of teakwood, inlaid with ivory depicting scenes illustrative of Chinese life. The upper portion of the folding doors is decorated with birds and flowers carved in relief out of solid pieces of wood. The combination of colours is so exquisitely blended that the harmony and variety of tints are most pleasing, and call up in the mind the abodes of fairyland. In front of the panels and supporting the projecting eaves are pillars painted in bright vermilion. The capitals are made of hand-carved lions, gilded in gold. The roof is of pediment shape, with the eaves turned up, ornamented by two gorgeous dragons, while on top of the central portion of the roof is a group of allegorical figures in the richest tone. The four corners of the eaves are also turned up, the decoration being groups of legendary figures, which run up from the corners to the ends of the roof. The interior consists of a large reception room, equidistant from the centre and the ends of which rise four vermilion pillars, around which are encircled four dragons in gold. In the middle of the room is a divan of black wood, beautifully carved, highly polished, and inlaid with mother-of-pearl and quaintly veined marble from the province of Yunnan. Immediately in front of the divan, which is the seat of honour, stands a table, on each side of which are two rows of chairs and two stands, the material and workmanship of which are made to match the divan. This set is known as the Canton furniture. In the north end of the room is a set from Ningpo, with carved figures in relief, lacquered in bright red, and decorated in silver and gold. The south end of the room contains the famous Fochow set, in lacquer, tastefully and elegantly decorated with birds and flowers. All the furniture is covered with silk, elaborately embroidered. The walls are hung with panels and scrolls, which bear witness to the skilful workmanship and fine decorative art of the Chinese. There is also a collection of lanterns, gracefully hung from the ceiling by silken cords; these lanterns are of quaint and odd patterns, and festoons of silk in mixed colours add to the charm of this greatly admired reception room.

"This pavilion cost in the neighbourhood of \$125,000, despite the fact that a great deal of the carving, ivory inlaid work, and figure making was done in China, where labour is very much less expensive than in America. The framework of the building was made in St. Louis, but the doors, windows, panelling, and other ornamented woodwork were manufactured in China. All the gilding and other artistic ornamentation of the interior were performed here by expert native Chinamen imported for that purpose. The Chinese pavilion at Paris cost \$60,000, and the construction was done there by Frenchmen, with French materials, from plans furnished by the Chinese Customs Service. These figures will give some idea of how much more elaborate is China's representation at St. Louis than in any previous exposition.

"The Chinese Imperial Pavilion is undoubtedly the most picturesque of all the foreign structures on the World's Fair grounds, and its popularity is attested by the crowds of visitors who throng its precincts. Its doors are open to the public between 2 and 5 o'clock every afternoon, but during other hours admission is obtained by cards issued from the Chinese Commission.

"This superfine display of Chinese arts, sciences, and industries on such a broad scale has never been equalled by China at any other exposition. While the principal native productions, such as tea, porcelain, silk, ivory, and wood carvings, were generously displayed in the bazaars of the Chinese reservation at the Paris Exposition by 141 merchants and others, no such comprehensive showing as the display at St. Louis was ever before attempted. Here 202 exhibitors, with a large and varied assortment of products, vie with each other for excellence and attractiveness."

CALENDARS, ETC., RECEIVED.

From Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., the agents, a small hanging calendar with a view of York Minster, issued by the Yorkshire Insurance Co.

From Mr. E. T. J. Blount, the local Secretary, Calendars in three useful forms issued by the Standard Life Assurance Co., one of them being a scribbling diary interlarded with blotting paper, most neatly bound in cloth.

From Messrs. E. L. Mondon & Co., Ltd., the agents here, a blotting book in a very tasteful grey cover issued by L'Union, of Paris, Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., whose assets, exclusive of shareholders' bonds, on the 31st of December last amounted to £5,490,837.

FATALITY AT THE OLD DOCK.

On Wednesday afternoon last a native brought over a large cargo boat from Pootung and moored her at the Old Dock. The natives who saw him arrive said he was drunk at the time; he called out to some of his friends that he was going to make some purchases ashore and that was the last they saw of him. The Indian watchman, however, saw the man return at about 7.30 p.m. in a very intoxicated condition. He was accompanied by another native, and appeared to be hardly able to walk, falling down four or five times on the way to the wharf. Finally he fell down close to his boat and the watchman heard him call for help. Several natives came from other boats and assisted to carry him on board.

On Thursday morning at about 11 o'clock the Chinese foreman wanted to send some goods to Pootung and knowing that this coolie came thence and thinking his boat a suitable one, went on board to speak to him about it. He found the coolie dead, lying in the bottom of the boat. Instead of reporting the matter, the foreman called some other coolies and bade them take the boat across the river. When Pootung was reached the matter was reported and Inspector Mellows and the local police at once made investigations. Deceased had four or five serious wounds on his head and at first suspicions of murder were entertained. The story of the watchman and boatmen, however, seemed consistent, and as the man's sister was quite satisfied and did not wish for an inquest, the man was buried last Friday.

THE TAIPINGS AT NINGPO AND SHANGHAI.

Archdeacon Moule was in his most reminiscent mood on Tuesday evening when he delivered a lecture on the above subject at the Church Room in the Cathedral compound. The large room was well filled. Mr. H. E. Hobson, who was in the chair, introduced the lecturer with a few appropriate remarks.

Although the lecture was supposed to be on the Taipings the Ven. Archdeacon did not confine himself to the doings of these gentlemen alone, for during the evening the audience was brought out in a tea-clipper, walked through the Shanghai of the early sixties, and, so vividly did the Archdeacon describe the persons and animals he had met in the Ningpo neighbourhood that we doubt not that many of the hearers went home to dream of storming Ningpo with Captain Roderick Dew or of hunting badgers in the Ningpo mountains.

At the conclusion of the lecture Mr. H. T. Wade proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, incidentally mentioning that he was a pretty old resident and that he had been responsible for bringing out one of the most famous cricketers that ever came to Shanghai—who died a year later of hydrophobia.

Another old Ningpo resident seconded the vote which was carried with unanimous applause.

The Rev. A. J. Walker proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, who, by the way, came out in the same clipper as Archdeacon Moule.

THE JAPANESE PROBLEM IN FORMOSA.

MR. CONSUL DAVIDSON'S
LECTURE.

The large parlour of the Foreign Y. M. C. A. was well filled on Saturday evening when Consul J. W. Davidson, F. R. G. S., delivered a most interesting lecture on "Japanese Problems in Formosa."

Mr. Odagiri, Consul-General for Japan, who was in the chair, introduced the lecturer with a few remarks showing how well fitted he was to lecture on this subject. Mr. Davidson, he said, had come to Formosa as war correspondent for an American paper in 1894, fresh from his experiences with the Peary expedition to Greenland. When the Chinese officers fled to the mainland the undisciplined troops started looting and burning everything they could lay hands on. Twice the capital was on fire. It was decided that the half of the Japanese should be solicited and Mr. Davidson with two companions accordingly passed though the Chinese lines, reached the Japanese outpost and within a few hours led the Japanese into the capital which they were thus enabled to occupy peacefully. For this service Mr. Davidson and his two companions were decorated with the military order of the "Rising Sun." A little later he entered the American Consular service, and he had spent ten years in the Island as Consul for America, during which time he was a very close student of Formosa and the author of a standard work on the Island, for which he was made an F. R. G. S.

The lecture, which was so interesting, was beautifully illustrated by lantern slides, which were shown at their best by the Rev. H. L. W. Bevan's lantern.

During the course of the lecture many people had to be turned away as the accommodation was exhausted.

At the conclusion of the lecture Mr. Odagiri proposed and Dr. G. Reid seconded a vote of thanks to the lecturer and to the Rev. H. L. W. Bevan, which was carried with acclamation, as was also a vote of thanks to the Chairman proposed by Mr. Mr. R. E. Lewis.

Preliminary.

Mr. Davidson's lecture was as follows:

In treating this subject I will refrain from attempting to prove that the Japanese have, or have not, been successful in their first attempt at colonisation. Affairs are still in a transitional stage, for the Japanese have spent but eight years in Formosa, and one cannot expect marked results in such a brief period. One is not justified, consequently, in making a definite declaration as to their success, and it would be unsafe to prophesy. I therefore merely request the honour of placing before this society a few facts and would ask you to pass judgment upon the progress already made.

Before discussing Formosa as it exists to-day under Japanese rule, it is necessary that we look back into the period of Chinese occupation, and note briefly the leading features of life under the Mandarins; and, furthermore, inform ourselves as to the inhabitants whom both China and Japanese have had to deal with.

Formosa, with its 15,000 square miles; is a trifle smaller than Switzerland and a little larger than the States of Vermont and Connecticut taken together, and supports a total population of over 2,600,000. This population, with the exception of about 100,000 people, resides in a rich fertile territory covering one half of the island, say 7,500 square miles in extent; the other half of the island is extremely mountainous and covered with jungle, which is given over entirely to savages, many tribes of whom are head-hunters and as fierce and untamed as any in the world to-day.

Prior to the arrival of the Dutch and the Chinese, the savage tribes, so-called aborigines, were spread over the whole island. With the advance of the foreigners the savages gradually retired to the mountainous region, and to one small part of the plain in the extreme south.

The Chinese in Formosa.

The Chinese population may be divided into two classes, the Hoklo, who speak the Amoy dialect and who came originally from Fokien province, and the Hakka, who speak a Cantonese dialect and immigrated chiefly from the Kuangtung province, where they were practically outcasts. The Hakka are a hardy and warlike race and predominate in the savage border districts, where land could be obtained for the taking and where a certain freedom from official oppression was ensured.

Unlike their Hoklo brethren, they are generally fearless, and we thus find them, of all Chinese, most willing to undertake the making of camphor in dangerous districts. There are a few prosperous Hakka villages in the plain; but, as a rule, the Hakka prefers the hills. It is roughly estimated that there are in the islands nearly 500,000 of these people.

The Hoklo, who number over 2,000,000 are the predominant race throughout the

island. They have brought with them the customs of their homeland to such a degree that a Chinese village in Formosa presents the same features as a village in their home province. The houses are of like materials and are crowded together in the same unsanitary way, the narrow ill-smelling streets present the same filth and are as irregular, the street hawkers have the same call and exhibit the same wares, and the people are alike in their dress and habits. Like their brethren on the mainland they are industrious and economical, but, unfortunately, unclean and superstitious. If they possess any advantages over the great masses of the Chinese mainland, it is that the present generation are less anti-foreign and more liberal in many ways. The parents of the thousands of the Formosan Chinese arrived as strangers, practically, in a foreign land; they doubtless met with hardships and unfriendliness while obtaining a foothold, and it is perhaps this fact that has made them look with more kindly spirit towards strangers in general. Without a doubt, the splendid work of the missionary bodies in the island, who lived down the disfavour with which they were at first regarded, accounts to a great degree for the absence of any strong anti-foreign spirit among the people at present.

The first arrivals were Japanese and Chinese pirates, and towards the close of the fifteenth century Chinese officials had frequent contests with them at sea. The turbulent days following, which recorded the advance of the Tartars over China, drove to the island many daring spirits, including that remarkable warrior and leader, Koxinga.

A Great Warrior-Statesman.

This interesting character was born in Hirada, Japan. His mother was a Japanese and his father a Chinese. He evidently inherited the diplomacy and acuteness of the Chinese, and the courage and dash of the Japanese, for he became, to my mind, one of the greatest warriors which the history of the world can show. He controlled while but a youth a great army which he himself had organised and which ruled supreme over a great strip of territory extending from near Foochow south almost to Canton. He attacked the Imperial Government so vigorously that its army was gradually driven back as far as Nanking, which Koxinga actually besieged for a considerable period. This all occurred between the years 1650 and 1660. Formosa was now in the hands of the Dutch. They had been practically given the island by the Chinese, whose title was not, however, exactly clear inasmuch as they had not at any time occupied it themselves. Koxinga had cast longing glances toward this beautiful land, and in 1661 sailed from Amoy with a large force to capture it. In this he was after some months successful, and in 1662 he declared himself the first King of Formosa. It is interesting to note that he undertook at once the preparation of an expedition to seize the Philippines from the Spanish, in which he would undoubtedly have been successful, when the virulent Formosa fever claimed him as a victim. His death was in May, 1662, at the early age of thirty-nine.

Koxinga's family controlled the island for thirty-eight years and then in 1683, it was handed over to the Imperial Chinese Government. The island now increased considerably in population, the new arrivals hoping, among other advantages, to escape the extortions of the Mandarins. Rebellion after rebellion followed, and the island became the abode of a race of outlaws, or, as Lu Chow, the

Chinese statesman, put it, "thieves, swindlers, and murderers who, forced to fly from their native country, seek in Formosa to evade the avenging arm of justice." While the people were thus more difficult to govern, the Mandarins were more unfit to administer. On the one hand, the people were there to enjoy greater freedom from the grinding rule of magistrates, and, on the other, the Mandarins were there to proceed with more open and extreme extortion than in China itself, since complaint was difficult and relief more so.

An Island of Civil Strife.

Most bloody and disastrous were the rebellions, and twice the capital itself was captured, and officials driven from the island. In addition to these disturbances, which were very frequent, fights between different clans, thousands sometimes being engaged, reached often to such proportions that the Imperial troops were obliged to step in to restore peace.

History shows that warfare among the Formosan Chinese, for one reason or another, was incessant until some forty years ago. If it ceased in one part of the island, it broke out in another, and the only respite, if any, was during the few weeks of harvest time, when the opposing parties were wise enough to lay aside the weapons of war for those of peace. Still, such troubles did not affect immigration, for though the island had a reputation for official tyranny and disorder, it was also well known for its fertility, and arrivals were willing to put up with the one to profit by the other.

Added to the difficulties with their own people, the Mandarins found the savages of the interior an unceasing source of disturbance. As a rule when savages were concerned, the officials permitted the settlers to do very much as they wished. A savage killed, under any circumstances (and frequently the most dastardly treachery was practised), was considered as a good riddance; were the Chinese murdered it was conveniently set down as a result of their own carelessness. A disturbance of this order usually meant that the Chinese, having incurred the hatred of the savages, a band of these hillmen would sweep down from the mountains, attack a small Chinese settlement, and flee back to their friendly jungles with the dripping heads of their Chinese victims. If the attack were liable to result in permanent disorder, or if an officer lost his head, the Imperial troops would be dispatched into the savage territory, where they would slaughter the first unfortunates that they fell in with, regardless whether they had been implicated in the attack or not, which, in truth, was difficult to ascertain even had the authorities so desired. This incessant warfare with the hillmen continued throughout the period of Chinese occupation. The last great engagement with the savages, in which the Chinese troops were employed, occurred during 1891 and 1892, during which many lives were lost and over 2,000 soldiers were required in one district alone to restore peace.

The Wreckers.

The intercourse with foreigners in the island was, until late years, marked by continual difficulty and bad feeling. Commencing with 1842, when, after the close of Britain's war with China, the civilised world learned with horror of one hundred and ninety-seven shipwrecked British subjects having been put to death by Formosan officials and of eighty-three

who perished through ill-treatment and starvation, the existence of foreign interests was obtained and maintained by force alone. Until the Japanese expedition in 1874 which was sent against the South Formosan savages, to avenge the murder of a crew of shipwrecked Loochoans, attacks on shipwrecked foreign crews by savages were frequent, and led to the landing of armed parties by Prussia and, by America. For a period of ten years prior to 1868, during which the foreign communities in Tainan, Takow, Tamsui, and Kelung were established, the Chinese gave frequent exhibitions of their hostility to foreigners, and on the unlighted and badly charted coasts of Formosa, numerous pirates hovered about. The latter, if they could not capture the speedy foreign craft on the open seas, frequently joined with the natives on shore in pillaging any vessels that were unfortunate enough to be wrecked. Formosa was, indeed, notorious for its wrecks. Upwards of one hundred foreign vessels were lost on the coast from 1850 to 1895, and of these over thirty were plundered, and many burned, by pirates and villagers. While the known loss in life was over two thousand. Towards the close of the sixties, a crisis was reached in the series of outrages which made it plain that either the foreigners must forsake Formosa, one and all, or some stringent method of dealing with the situation must be introduced. The British Consul stationed in South Formosa requisitioned the assistance of a naval force. Anping was captured, the Chinese garrison there defeated, and the port was held by British forces for five days. Very substantial results were obtained by this move. The Chinese were taught to respect foreigners, and instead of Formosa being known, as it had been for years, as a place where the lives of aliens were in constant peril, it soon obtained a reputation for liberality and safety, and the Mandarins were generally prompt to give satisfaction.

The First Chinese Governor.

In 1887, Formosa, which prior to this date was politically merely a division of Fukien Prefecture, became an independent province of China, and Liu Ming-chuan, an official of undoubted ability and liberality, who had carried the island safely through the French troubles, was appointed first Governor. During the period following, down to 1895 when Liu Ming-chuan retired from the island, many improvements were introduced. A railway, the first in the whole Empire of China, was constructed from Kelung to Tackcham (now known as Shinchiku) via the capital Taipei (or T'ihoku, according to its Japanese pronunciation). The leading streets of the capital, and of its suburbs Daitotei and Banks, were improved by a rough paving of cobblestones, and jinrickshas were introduced. A cable was laid from Anping to the Pescadores and from Tamsui to the Chinese mainland, and a telegraph line constructed between Takow and Tainanfu.

Although these improvements were of great value, and were remarkable considering the proverbial hostility of the Chinese to such innovations, still the island was backward in many other respects. There was no government postal service, either internal or foreign, and it was not an uncommon event to pay ten dollars for the carrying of a letter to some interior town; there were no Courts based on modern jurisprudence, the only roads were footpaths, often merely narrow dividing lines between the paddy-

fields; telegraphic communication was limited to one main line; travel by railway was uncomfortable and limited, and there were no newspapers nor other means of enlightening the people on current events; the island was without hospitals and schools save the comparatively modest establishments supported by the missionary bodies in both North and South Formosa; no attempt was made to introduce sanitary measures, no coasting trade by steam vessels was permitted, and shipping was limited to one or two boats a week, running from Tamsui or Anping to Hongkong. In other words, the island was Chinese and Chinese only, the foreign communities not being of sufficient size to make their influence felt.

In this state, the island was, in 1895, handed over to the Japanese. A crude undeveloped land, save as to agriculture, with over two million people unfriendly to the new arrivals, and with a hill population of wild savages occupying quite half of the island.

The first civilian Japanese to arrive after the occupation were not a desirable class. They were chiefly adventurers, following the army to pick up what they could by the wayside, and return to Japan at the first opportunity. Thousands of military "coolies" were brought into the island to carry supplies for the army; and, fortunately, at the expiration of their term of employment, they were returned to Japan by the Government. The camp-followers led a horrible life; great numbers died from sickness; they found the island no Eldorado, and the survivors eventually drifted back to Japan. During the year 1896, after peace had been restored, a better element arrived. Merchants in Japan sent representatives to look the field over from a commercial point of view; scholars and professional men visited the island in considerable number, and shop-keepers established themselves in the larger cities, carrying such goods as would appeal to the military, to travellers, etc. Towards the close of the year the first Japanese families arrived, and carpenters were busy in converting Chinese structures into habitations provided with the proverbial tatami (mats), without which Japanese seem ill at ease. The evolution of a Chinese house in the hands of a Japanese was interesting. The typical Chinese house has the minimum of light and air, and the maximum of darkness and dampness; and the Japanese occupant endeavoured to reverse this state of things. The first move was to punch holes through the long stretch of solid wall, so as to supply windows. Small regard was shown for the landlord's sensibilities and frequently the openings were not plastered round about, but were simply big, jagged holes, which looked for all the world as though the building had been badly injured by a bombardment. An elevated wooden floor, rooms reaching from end to end, save room for a passage way which extended in front and then along one side to the back. On the raised floor were placed the tatami, and the more ambitious introduced sho-ji (sliding paper doors) to enclose the platform. The elevated floor was too near the ground for a malarial climate like that of Formosa; besides, the surroundings of these Chinese houses were, in most cases, unsanitary. Hundreds of Japanese died in the island, and hundreds were invalidated to Japan. This naturally gave the island a bad name. It was considered a death-hole, and there was difficulty in engaging Japanese servants from the mainland,

even when comfortable homes were assured to them. For two years the officials were living in these crude, converted houses. During the next few years, vastly improved residences were erected for the officers, and civilians built many new houses, while others, by making use of the attic of a nominally single-storied Chinese building, obtained sleeping rooms a considerable distance above the ground. Furthermore, in the capital city Taihoku, the Japanese vastly improved the drainage, and the city was kept in a more sanitary condition. A notable decrease in mortality, among Japanese, followed these improvements, and now Formosa has a more desirable reputation in Japan. Given a sanitary neighbourhood, without too much vegetation in the immediate vicinity, upper-storied quarters, plenty of fresh air and light, good food, and protection for the head when travelling in the sun, life can be made quite as healthy in Formosa as can be expected in a semi-tropical land. The author's experience of ten years in the island, without one day of illness, and during which he had gained forty-one pounds, which he did not altogether require, has made him somewhat sensitive on this point.

The Japanese population, excluding the military, numbers, at present writing, some 40,000. With the exception of the official class, who came largely from Tokio, numbers are from Kiushiu, though many of the shop-keepers are from Osaka. The Japanese population is not increasing rapidly, and undoubtedly the Chinese will always predominate. With the exception of a few wealthy firms, who are working plantations on a large scale, the Japanese colonist does not take kindly to agriculture. This is easily understood, for it would be difficult and perhaps not desirable, for them to compete with Chinese farmers, who are prepared, if necessary, to live entirely on the produce of their own small farms, plus perhaps an income sufficient for the purchase of, say, one pair of cotton trousers a year. Again, even if farming should be profitable, it is doubtful if the Japanese can labour in the fields, under a burning Formosan sun, for the same number of hours as the Chinese. As shopkeepers, "coolie" overseers, artisans, and general skilled labourers, and as professional men, the Japanese have discovered an opening in Formosa. We now find some such persons in the cities and the villages throughout the island. There is scarcely a settlement of four or five hundred or more inhabitants that has not a half-dozen or more Japanese. That they get on well with the villagers can be taken for granted, for many of them are far from Japanese military aid, and the villagers could make away with them without immediate danger to themselves if they wished.

The Evolution of Taihoku.

Excluding such government works as railway improvements, etc., the advent of the Japanese population has made but little change in the outward appearance of things, with the possible exception of the creation of what is practically a Japanese city at the capital, Taihoku. The change there to one who saw the city as it existed under the Chinese régime is very striking. The evolution of this place from a Chinese to a Japanese city has been very interesting. For the first six months it may be said to have remained thoroughly Chinese. Of ten shops probably less than one was Japanese, and there was not a building to be seen that was in other than Chinese style. A year

later the city had still a distinctly Chinese look rather than Japanese "complexion," though there were evidences of great changes. Now it is vastly different. There is not one Chinese house in twenty, and the city is quite Japanese. This change took place without any pressure being brought to bear, but simply because the Chinese were not inclined to pay the high rents, or high prices, asked for land and houses, as their patrons were chiefly residents of the Chinese suburbs outside the city. The old Chinese houses have, in the majority of cases, been replaced by new ones in Japanese style, and the remaining buildings have been half "Japanified," the principal characteristic being, I need scarcely state, a change from filthiness to cleanliness. Indeed this applies not only to the houses but to the whole city. Besides this, there are several hundred new official residences and offices. The dwelling-houses, commencing with the handsome residence of the Governor-General, are of brick and stone, neatly designed without too much attempt at ornamentation. The new offices are plain, modest buildings, well suited for their purposes. The most striking of these are the fine post office, more imposing than any I have seen in Japan proper, the court houses, police school, hospital, railway station, the Bank of Formosa, the observatory, etc. There are also outside the city the large brick factory attached to the Camphor Office, and the large, though not as substantial factory buildings wherein the opium for the island is prepared. The streets have been splendidly macadamised, and, in this respect, are superior to those in Japan proper, and a drainage system has been introduced. The city is kept scrupulously clean. During the plague season, the sanitary police make a house to house visitation. Mats must be aired, floors taken up and everything offensive removed, and the places subjected to a thorough cleansing and disinfecting, chloride of lime and carbolic acid being freely used.

Taihoku, with its fine streets, its imposing buildings, its well-stocked shops, where everything from a foreign hat to a bicycle can be purchased, excels perhaps any city of its size in the whole of Japan. But, as yet, the same cannot be said of the other towns throughout the island, though the more important places have been improved in some respects. A splendid system of waterworks has been installed at both Tamsui and Kelung. The latter is provided with extensive filtering beds; the whole plant representing an expenditure of about half a million yen. Daitotei has been provided with a new "bund," over a mile in length, to protect the bank from damage by the Tamsui River, and many new buildings for residential purposes have been constructed. At Kelung very extensive harbour improvements are under way which, when completed, will give safe and roomy accommodation to the largest vessels. At Tamsui also, some "bundling" has been done. In the southern cities, Tainan, Anping, and Takow, no great changes are visible, save those in connection with the new railway. There are a few official buildings and residences, and many Chinese buildings have been altered for Japanese occupation, but otherwise, with the exception of perhaps less filth, the towns present about the same appearance as under the Chinese régime. Thus, though the cities, excluding the capital, present about the same

appearance (though, as a rule, they are cleaner) as under the Chinese rule, still there have been many changes which have benefited the island as a whole.

The Effect on Trade.

First, let us consider the effect on trade. In 1894, the last year of the Chinese régime, the entire import of piece-goods amounted in value to 988,759 yen, against 1,708,643 yen under the Japanese in 1900. Kerosene oil rose from 394,500 yen in 1894 to 1,209,056 yen in 1900; flour from 82,680 yen to 355,541 yen; and the total imports from 9,254,010 yen to 22,009,695 yen. It should be noted, however, in comparing the total trade, that much of the "junk" trade, which did not, under the Chinese, pass through the Chinese Customs, is included in the present Japanese returns. The items given above, however, passed through the Chinese Customs and can therefore be taken as fair examples of the general increase. Furthermore, comparing the first year of Japanese occupation, with last year, thus obtaining for both years a like standard of calculation, we find the total imports for 1896 to be 9,131,002 yen against 22,009,694 yen for 1900, which shows that the increase is real. Exports for the same period show an increase of nearly three million yen. During the last five years of the Chinese occupation, we find imports increased from 7,127,534 yen to 9,354,010 yen, thus showing a nominal increase of less than 30 per cent, against over 140 per cent for a similar period under Japanese rule.

Shipping returns also show a great increase. Excluding vessels engaged in the coasting trade, 471 merchant steamers of 540,965 tons cleared during 1900, against 269 steamers of 168,948 tons during the Chinese régime in 1894.

The reason for this improved condition of affairs is easily understood when we note that, unlike the Chinese days with remittances to Peking, and fortunes for local mandarins, the entire revenue of the island is expended on local public improvements. Nearly 150,000,000 yen has thus been into circulation, and about two-thirds of this amount was money brought in from Japan. Naturally this has increased the purchasing power of the masses. Prior to the arrival of the Japanese, unskilled labour could be obtained at from thirteen to fifteen sen a day. At present the coolie finds his wages doubled, and contractors who desire large forces of workmen frequently find it extremely difficult to obtain them, even at these advanced figures. With the increased earnings of the masses, the farmers found they could obtain double for their products and thus the good time spread to them. True the labourers, in paying more for their food, do not find the increase in wages clear gain, still with the proverbial economy of the "coolie" class, their wants are so few that the cost of these can be easily doubled without deducting a very large portion of their increased pay. The Chinese literati class have, however, fared badly. Without a profession, and unable to undertake manual labour, there is but little for them to do.

The Government is making strenuous efforts to increase the export trade. It has subsidised a modern sugar-mill which has commenced operations in South Formosa, manufacturing brown sugar for refining purposes; it has, likewise, given assistance to a white sugar factory; it has started an experimental paper-factory; and endeavoured in other ways to increase the island's productions.

Independent Japanese firms have, likewise, done a good deal, though not as much as we had reason to anticipate. Two gold-quartz mills, one being of considerable size, are successfully at work in the Formosan gold-fields; two wealthy companies are engaged in plantation work on a large scale in South-East and in North Formosa; and there are several Japanese-owned coal-mines, a paper-factory at Kagi, several modern salt-farms, and other smaller industries to Japanese credit.

In improving transportation, the Japanese have done very much, and are planning to do much more. The Chinese railway line was handed over to the Japanese in such a condition that it had to be all reconstructed. We thus have practically a new line to Kelung and another to Shinchiku (formerly Teck-cham). In addition to these, new lines were constructed from Taihoku to Tamsui, and from Takow to Tainanfu. The trunk line connecting the north and south is now in course of construction. The Japanese have also built over two hundred miles of narrow-gauge for the temporary transport of military supplies, general freight, and passengers. Nearly a thousand miles of ordinary road have been constructed, and some of this work, such as the mountain roads between Taihoku and Gilan, and between Taihoku and Kimpori, has been an undertaking of considerable difficulty.

Improved harbour facilities are very necessary for the island, and four dredgers are at present at work in Kelung, which will be made the chief harbour of Formosa. Surveys are also in progress at both Tamsui and Takow, but no definite plans have been announced for the improvement of these two harbours.

There are upwards of a hundred post offices in the island, and the internal letter-rate of two sen is in force, not only for local service but for mail to and from Japan as well. New cables have been laid to Japan, to Foochow, and to the Pescadores. Furthermore, there is not a village of importance without telegraphic communication, over 1,400 miles of wire having been laid by the Government. A telephone-line exists in Tainanfu, and at Taihoku, which is also connected with Kelung and Tamsui.

Educational Advance.

Much has been accomplished in the educational work. There are at present three normal schools, four language schools, some one hundred and thirty elementary schools, and five schools on the East Coast for the savages. It is the intention to establish forty more schools for savages in the border districts, and the capital is to be eventually provided with a University. In addition to the above, the Government supports a very efficient medical school, a school for police and gaolers, an agricultural school, and a school for telegraphy. Other elementary schools are to open in the coming year, and altogether the number of schools under Government control open to natives may be put down at about two hundred.

Hospitals have been established in the leading cities throughout the island, and medical care is given gratis to such Chinese as are unable to pay. The hospitals at Taihoku and Tainanfu are specially well-equipped. More than 177,000 Chinese received free medical treatment during the year 1900. The revenue now equals the expenditure, so that Formosa this year becomes self-supporting. Camphor, opium, and salt-monopolies, and Customs-revenue yield the

larger portion of the Government's income. During the first few years of the occupation taxes were very low. Since the commencement of the present war taxes have been increased to such an extent and imposed in such a manner that the lot of the Formosa landlord would appear to be now a less happy one.

It is to the portion of Formosa occupied by the Chinese that I have referred in describing above the work accomplished by the Japanese. The eastern half of the island is mountainous jungle and here we find the savage population of the island. These fierce head-hunters have maintained all the power which was theirs during the Chinese régime, and I believe I am not doing the Japanese an injustice when I say that in no degree have the new arrivals succeeded in solving this great problem. During the Chinese occupation warfare with these wild people never ceased and the annual loss in life was very large. The Japanese believed themselves equal to the task, and several policies have been adopted, all of which have alike failed. In a single year some three or four hundred lives are lost, and it is impossible that this continual slaughter shall be permitted. The difficulties are tremendous and military experts who have studied the question are at a loss for a plan which is within the power of the Japanese to execute. The British in Borneo dealt with a race which possessed chiefs of great influence, who if induced to surrender brought their people with them. In Formosa there are only village chiefs of little power who at the most could control the actions of but a few families. In the United States we dealt with a wild people who roamed the plains, and who could not escape from our forces. In the Philippines the hill tribes live in villages of considerable size, and these are vulnerable. In Formosa head-hunters live in a dense jungle on the slopes of great mountains. These settlements consist of perhaps only half-a-dozen frail structures which are of little value and easily rebuilt. There are no tribal chiefs and the head-hunters live their lives quite independent of their neighbours. A military expedition can march through from one end of the territory to another without seeing a single savage, though an unfortunate soldier falling a few hundred feet behind his fellows would probably be deprived of his head in a moment, and so dense is the jungle that before his companion could come to the rescue in answer to his first cry for help, the savages would have squirmed into the jungle with all the agility of a wild beast, and be far from sight. Roads might be cut through the jungle, but so precipitous are the mountains and deep the gullies that the cost would be tremendous, and without a perfect network over the 7,500 square miles of savage territory, which is of course out of the question, the results would be of trifling value. Destruction of the jungle by fire is likewise not to be thought of, for with it would go the great camphor forests which supply the whole world with this drug, and which bring to the Formosan Government its principal income.

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THE CHINESE TRACT SOCIETY.

We make the following extracts from the annual report of this enterprising Society, which is doing a great work in spreading Christian and modern ideas among the Chinese:—

"We review the year's work deeply impressed with the evidence of God's good providence. When making up the budget last year it seemed we must find ourselves out of funds before the year closed. Our wants seemed great, but God's mercy was greater, and He inclined His people to give most generously. We have printed all the work we could get through, putting it out on five different presses, and closed the year, as we have always done, with a balance at the bank.

"We acknowledge with thanks the generous contributions so freely given by friends in China, who are in a position to personally know all about the work. The Religious Tract Society of London, which has contributed so liberally to the expenses of preparing and publishing the Conference Commentary on the whole Bible, has sent £250 for the express purpose of helping finish this work. The American Tract Society has, besides its contribution of £51. 5d. towards the general work, also given \$600 in gold to help complete the Conference Commentary.

"The year's work has been far in excess of any other since the Society was organised. The printing was four times that of four years ago, and lacked but little of being twice as much as last year. The Board of Directors and Examining Committee who have examined and passed on all this work are, without exception, hard-worked, overworked men who have often, at the close of a toil-worn day, snatched an hour from needed rest to give to this cause. The examiners deserve special thanks for their painstaking self-denial. The Rev. J. B. Ost, of the Church Missionary Society, having taken up the duties of our Hon. Recording Secretary, the Rev. C. J. F. S. Symons, during his absence, has laid us under further obligations by carrying on the work of the Society during several months of the year.

"The greatest work ever undertaken by the Society is the Conference Commentary. The New Testament was put to press on the 8th of March, 1898. The 5,000 copies then printed have all been disposed of and during the year a revised edition has been printed. The Old Testament has all been published, except the last two of the Minor Prophets and Deuteronomy, which is in press.

"During the year there have come from the press the following parts of this very popular and most useful work:—

Ruth, Judges, and First and Second Kings, prepared by the Rev. H. C. DuBose, D.D.

First and Second Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther, prepared by the Rev. A. P. Parker, D.D.

Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel, prepared by the Rev. H. V. Noyes, D.D., and Ecclesiastes, prepared by the Rev. James Jackson.

"We, who have so many helps to understand the Bible, can hardly appreciate the boon the patrons of the Religious Tract Society and American Tract Society have conferred upon the Chinese Christians, especially the preachers, in giving them this splendid Commentary on the whole Bible. The readiness with which it is

taken up shows it is supplying a felt want. It is proposed to raise a special fund to enable the Society to present a complete Commentary on the Bible to theological students and poor preachers. One hundred dollars it is estimated would enable the Society to make on behalf of the donors, twenty such presents."

After enumerating other of the principal works published by the Society, and giving a list of the literary contributors, the report sets out the budget as follows: For printing works on hand

and in press	\$5,831.40
To keep up our stock	2,532.24
Sundry other expenses	2,081.58

10,445.22

To meet this we have 4,440.61

\$6,004.61

But we trust our Lord has some way to help us carry on His work."

There are interesting paragraphs at the end, from which we quote:—

"With our head-quarters in this great centre and mart of trade, and our agents in so many parts of the empire and in distant lands, we possess unsurpassed facilities for the widest possible diffusion of Christian and the most useful kinds of knowledge. We lay great stress on the attractive books we have for the young, and on our commentaries and other works suitable for pastors and preachers and other Christians who wish to prepare themselves for greater usefulness. During the year we have reprinted twenty-nine of our standard works that had run out of stock and added fifty-nine new works to our list, which brings it up to three hundred and sixty-five of our own publications. Among modern heathen nations for intelligence and integrity the Chinese probably stand highest.

"It is often said that the Chinese character is far superior to the Japanese. This statement is, however, made by those who have come in contact only with the merchant and lower classes of the Japanese. The Japanese ruling class have shown a patriotism and integrity rare to find in China; this may be accounted in part at least for by the fact that about forty years ago many families of the ruling class employed missionaries as tutors, so that the government of Japan to-day is composed largely of men who have received a Christian education. Though we may not send missionaries, as tutors, into mandarin families, our literature goes there and will be read by those who would shrink from listening to the gospel in the presence of others; and wherever our books are read, they will be silent but potent forces for building sound character, such as every government must have or be a failure. The results of our work cannot be tabulated, nor even reported now. Eternity alone will reveal its widespread influence, not only in this great empire but in different parts of the world where the Chinese have wandered."

THE RUSSIAN SOLDIER IN CHINA.

In spite of, or perhaps because of so much having been written about the cruelty of the Russian soldier, it is both curious and interesting to notice the place he takes in the eyes of the Chinese. By "Chinese" I mean the masses who

come most closely in contact with the average Russian soldier.

The latter may be, and undoubtedly sometimes is, overbearing and even cruel; but what conquering or stronger power is not, unless it have the sense of fairness born and bred in the English Public School boy, and that is too much to expect in the, more often than not, illiterate and totally uneducated Russian soldier. The Chinese looks up to the soldier as to a power.

An incident I witnessed last summer at Newchwang will explain what I mean better than pages of argument. Two small boys, apparently about nine or ten years of age, had differed until words failed to express their varied feelings, unless accentuated by most unscientific blows and punches, these latter in their turn leading up to clawings in the direction of the other boy's back hair, in each case a good handful of coarse back hair plaited into the traditional pig-tail and with a wiry kind of fringe separating it from the shaved border surrounding it. This skirmishing took place on an open space near the former Japanese Consulate, on the half sidewalk, half gutter, surrounding which were several nondescript Chinese, some vendors of various commodities much in demand among the passers-by—pears, buttons, cigarettes, hard-boiled eggs, lengths of sugar-cane—a kind of green bamboo, which they gnaw and munch as they wander along the streets, or squat under a wall in the sun.

Besides these pedlars were the inevitable loafers who congregate wherever there is a chance of picking up a stray cash or kopeck. A "boy" (servant) or two who happened to be passing and had stopped to watch the struggle and a nondescript Chinese paterfamilias with his four-year-old hopeful, still in the undeveloped stage of two stiff horn-like pig-tails, one above and slightly behind each ear. This small specimen of humanity seemed to take an over-powering interest in the proceedings, which grew more and more exciting; he got gradually nearer and nearer, his round bullet-head and beady eyes seeming to "swell wisely" as matters became more and more complicated. The combatants were very fairly matched, but at last "Darkie" (I named them from the colour of the few clothes they wore) got his fingers firmly twisted into "Grey's" hair, and down they went, Grey undermost. Still he would not give in, but kept on reiterating the same words, evidently either the cause of the battle or a defiance and refusal to submit. "Darkie" in spite of his struggles managed to give him several knocks wherever he happened to catch him, holding him with the left hand still in his hair. Now was four-year-old's chance; he rushed in and began belabouring the weaker side with all his little might. However, his father by shaking his finger and shouting at him managed to frighten him off—for a time. But not for long; he was evidently enjoying himself, but "Grey" certainly was not, though once he did wriggle round and nearly get the upper hand, and had in fact, though his head was wedged between "Darkie's" knees, managed to squirm and twist until he had got a slight, a very slight hold on his opponent's hair.

Finding punching unavailing, "Darkie" tried pinching, anywhere, everywhere, but "Grey" was game, fainter and fainter, but still as obstinately as ever came the three words, sounding something like "La mai zan! la mai zan!" until at last they were mere

gasp. Then one of the bystanders apparently thought it time to interfere, which he did by taking "Darkie" by the loosest part of his clothing and lifting him bodily off his enemy, who rose panting to his feet, and there they stood, showing their teeth and growling like two young wolves. Then, in spite of all the peace-making Chinaman could do, they were at it again, this time each having a fair grip of the other.

Down they went, and Round-head seizing his opportunity rushed in and did his level best to get in as many bows as possible indiscriminately.

The Chinese began to look desperately hopeless, or hopelessly desperate, but what was to be done? A Chinaman seems unable to hurt a child, children are sacred to to them, but how to separate those boys! Happy thought, the Russian soldiers! The barracks were only just across the open space, there were sure to be some of them lounging about. "Soldat! Soldat!" cried paterfamilias; and then "Soldat, soldat!" shouted the Chinese in a breath, "Soldat, soldat!"

The boys looked up, but seeing no signs of any soldiers near, continued the battle. Just then was seen approaching from the direction of the barracks a bearded Cossack. He came with steady measured strides, leisurely switching the air with—what, a knout? no, a few twigs of birch or tamarisk. His face was set and grim, as he drew nearer the eyes of the bystanders seemed to watch his every movement. What would he do, this Cossack, this terrible Russian soldier?

And still the voices repeated "Soldat, Soldat!" and still the boys fought on, until at last the tramp, tramp, and the switching of the twigs were very near, so near that they were no longer sceptical as to the threat "Soldat!" nor stopped to argue, but like two india-rubber balls were on their feet and bounding across the open ground, the soldier, after giving them a moment's start, rushing after them with much stamping and switching of twigs. The Chinese were simply doubling up with laughter, so was I; the expression of grim fun and good humour on that Russian's face as he quietly returned was a picture.

Finding themselves unpursued, the boys had stopped at a safe distance from each other and from us, and, with a lot of bricks, a roadway and a ditch between them, were still shouting the same three words at each other, "La mai zan, la mai zan!"

"What can they be saying," I said to the soldier in Russian. "Don't know, ma'am," said he, "I expect in their lingo must be pretty bad swear words, for they seem to enjoy it!"

And on that we dispersed.

K. A. M. "COSMOPOLIS."

YUNNANFU TO THE COAST.

A SEQUEL TO "BETWEEN TWO
CAPITALS."

BY ARCHIBALD LITTLE.

II.

The hsien or district city of Yliang is a small but busy place built on the edge of a rich "patse" or rice bottom through which flows the Yliang river on its way to join the Tacheng, which ultimately finds

its way through Kuangsi province into the China Sea. Here we found a French colony of railway people from whom we received every kindness, Mr. Prudhomme, the superintendent, together with his hospitable consort, regaling us with a true Parisian dinner.

At Yliang we left the line of the railway and, turning west, crossed the range of mountains that separate the valley utilised by the railway from that through which passes the main road to Mêngtse. Our object was to visit the big lake of Chênkiang which lies in a fold of these mountains and aloof from any of the main thoroughfares, and so has been little visited by Europeans, excepting by those engaged in surveying the country with a view to laying out the railway. We took two days from Yliang to reach the city of Chênkiang from which the lake takes its name and which is built at its northern end; although, measured on the map, the distance between the two cities is within twenty-five miles. But we have to cross the two walls of an intervening "basin"—the Tsao-pu "haite"—a flat about five miles by one and a-half with the remnant of the old mere filling up its northern end—ascending on one side 1,200 feet and the other 2,800 feet above Yliang to do so. The little village of Tsao-tien, in the midst of the haite, is charmingly situated in a grove of trees surrounded by fields of paddy, maize, tobacco, and sunflowers; grass- and furze-covered moorland leading up to the mountain slopes which are, as is most usually the case, bare of trees and uncultivated. We spent here our first night out from Yliang in a primitive but clean inn, having come only sixty li.

After crossing the ridge, on the following morning, we descended through a wooded valley with small clearings of buckwheat but with no houses or population visible, until we came to the foot of a steep cultivated mountain on our right hand, rising about 3,000 feet above the valley. This conspicuous mountain dominates the northern shore of the large Chênkiang lake, the prefectural city of Chênkiang being built on a "flat" between it and the great lake. Fifty li out from Tsao-tien we tiffed in the outskirts of the small village of Niuchuang (cattle depot) in a grove of acacia, palm, pine, willow trees, and bamboo, in which we sought shelter from a heavy shower. We had now risen to 1,900 feet above Yliang and there was a delicious freshness in the air and a cold autumnal feeling although we were still in the month of August. Thence a steep descent of twelve hundred feet, a distance of twenty li, through broken country and by paths of red shale, affording grand views over the mountain-embosomed lake (in size and appearance comparable to the Lake of Lucerne, but minus the snow peaks in the background), brought us to the walled city of Chênkiang. Chênkiang, though a walled city and looming large on the map, covers less ground than does the district city of Yliang; its area is about half a square mile and it has no suburbs without the walls: it is built on the northern edge of a strip of level paddy-fields which, similarly to Yünnanfu, separate its walls from the deep water of the lake, this cultivated strip being about a mile in depth and extending a distance of three to four miles along the northern shore of the lake. The city is traversed by wide but dirty streets and we failed to find any tolerable resting-place within its walls so, after a long search, ultimately secured rooms in a horse inn outside the south gate, sleeping over a malodorous stable crowded with galled ponies, as, all night through,

"Champing golden grain the coursers stood

"Hard by their pack-loads waiting for the dawn."

We left Chênkiang by a path coasting the lake, the waters of which a strong south wind was dashing in breakers on a pebbly beach, with not a single sail to break the water horizon glittering in bright sunshine: the poorly-found lake boats (and, such as they are there are very few of them) only venturing out when the wind falls after sunset. After three miles thus following the north shore, we turned south and proceeded by a path which runs up and down along the foothills of the mountains which divide the lake basin from that through which runs the high road to Mêngtse, and which rise immediately from the lake shore. We passed one or two small villages where a narrow flat allowed of rice cultivation until, towards evening, we approached a conspicuous cliff-sided limestone peak, some fifteen hundred feet in height, known as the "Ohienshan." Here we ascended steeply eight hundred feet, the path leading past the top of a smooth straight slope of detritus newly fallen the cliff above, to a "col" created by an precipitous limestone cape which here juts out into the lake and from the crest of which we enjoyed a fine view over the lake and the dimly perceived higher mountain that bound its eastern shore. A rapid descent on the other side led us into a small enclosed valley filled with paddy-fields but without a house visible: thence over a second col similar to the preceding, the point enclosing a small snug boat harbour, into another terraced valley running back between wooded precipitous mountains, the rice-fields following up the mountain stream almost to its source. Here we found the little village of Lutsung ("Midway") where we put up for the night.

We left Lutsung by a path still continuing along the shore, occasionally rising over projecting headlands affording lovely views over the lake,—having close on our right a steep rugged cloud-capped range which divides the basin of Chênkiang from that of Kiangchuan,—a range rising to about twenty-five hundred feet above the lake. The lake is a dark blue colour and probably very deep,—a true mountain rift. In this showery weather the farther shore was generally invisible and, with the waves breaking on the clean boulder beach, close along the edge of which the path now led, we seemed to be coasting a sea shore. Again to-day not a sail was visible, the lake, although twenty-two miles long, being of little use to the natives as a channel of communication. Along our narrow trail we met a few teams of pack ponies carrying cotton yarn from Mêngtse and the Red River, but the traffic here is very small compared with that between Mêngtse and Yünnanfu.

Shortly after passing Mishin, a village situated five or six miles above the southern or lower end of the lake, the country opens out and the hills here, being composed of softer material as compared with the hard mountain limestone of the road so far traversed, have been washed down and a comparatively easy road across the water-parting is thus available into the valley of Kiangchuan. A wide break in the mountains has been formed leaving a comparatively large area open to cultivation, which here as elsewhere is chiefly devoted to paddy. The divide between the two basins, which may rise to five hundred feet, is formed of shales, including a tough white-grey marl which has been denuded into terraces and cliffs, a down which we descended on the west side into the basin filled by the Nankuang lake (so called locally) at the upper end of which is situated the walled city of Kiangchuan. Though a hsien or district city, Kiangchuan measures only about a quarter of a mile each way and seems to contain little else than an imposing three-storied drum tower, built at the intersection of its main N. and S. and E. and W. streets,—the distance

from Lutsung, whence we had set out in the morning, being about fifteen miles.

Our destination for the night was the village of Haimênch'iao, ten miles to the south as the crow flies. The road is bad, at first winding through paddy-fields and then leading up and down over the out-jutting promontories of the Nankuang lake. The naturally poor road was made worse by the continuous rain but we were reconciled to the attendant discomfort by the interest aroused by our arrival at Haimênch'iao. The meaning of the name is Sea-gate Bridge: it is reached by a picturesque three-arched stone bridge which crosses a narrow river by which the Nankuang lake drains into the lake of Chênkiang. This river, which is little over ten yards broad at its narrowest and is about a mile in length, flows with a swift deep current past limestone cliffs on its left bank, to its outfall opposite a small high wooded island situated near the southern extremity of the larger lake. The small river would seem to have cut out a gap for itself little wider than its actual bed, leaving, along its right bank, room for a path, shaded by fine banyan and pèng trees, along which we walked to take our farewell view of the big lake now illuminated by the setting sun, returning in the dusk, as heavy rain again set in, to find the main street of Haimênch'iao flooded and our inn door only accessible by wading. We have now rejoined the high road to Tung-hai and Mêngtse which we quitted, not far from the city of Yünnan, in order to make a détour by way of the Yliang defile and the shores of Lake Chênkiang.

These twin lakes, as one might well call them, united as they are by a short river which makes its way through this curiously narrow gap in the dividing range, are the third and fourth in the series of the five lakes that lie to the south of Yünnanfu, and which make such an attractive feature to the road thence to Mêngtse, the great Chênkiang lake being the third, and the smaller Nankuang lake, upon the east shore of which stands the village of Haimênch'iao, being the fourth. The following morning found us coasting along the east shore of this latter lake which we estimated to measure nine miles N. and S. by four miles E. and W., the surrounding mountains being low, not over 1,000 feet. It stands, of course, at nearly the same level as its sister lake, the Chênkiang, which is about 100 feet below that of the lake of Yünnanfu, say 6,300 feet above the sea. A noticeable distinction is that the ridge south of the Yünnan lake forms the water-parting between the Yangtze valley drainage and that of the "West" river of Canton, these four lower lakes all draining into the latter. The Nankuang lake is pretty but not sublime as is the Chênkiang lake,—at least when seen in stormy weather as we saw it;—its banks are fertile and we passed through many prosperous villages embosomed in fine trees and orchards of the Chinese date (so-called); tobacco plantations were also largely in evidence. We left the lake by an two hundred feet ascent over barren moorland, grass-covered but gashed with vermilion red ravines from which limestone blocks protruded—the same formation we had found to pervade the province. This moorland gives pasture to herds of cattle and goats but is bare of all culture. Thence we descended 200 feet to another "pate" or flat, a small fertile oasis in the midst of which stands the flourishing but extraordinarily filthy village of Tienzsapa, the heaven-born, an old lake bottom; then over the enclosing ridge into the valley of the fifth lake, the Tung-hai or "Eastern Sea." The Tung-hai lake is more striking than the Nankuang although rather smaller: the surrounding mountains are higher and descend in cliffs of crystalline limestone and white marble to the old lake shore which now stands a half

mile or more inland leaving a richly-cultivated level border between them and the present lake, and again giving space for flourishing villages. The weird appearance of the surrounding cliffs must have struck the holy men of old, for temples abound and the mountains behind them are covered with rich forest in consequence. Many of these cliffs are curiously waterworn and in places overhanging. Turning round and following up the south shore of the lake upon which stands the district city of Tunghai, we traversed an extensive rice-plain (the rice now beginning to be harvested), two to three miles in width, all land recovered from the lake, the level of which is now several feet lower than it was many millenial ago when the waters of the lake undermined the present inland cliffs. Tunghaihsien is a fine old walled city, covering little more than a half square mile, with clean broad streets, lined in parts by elaborately carved two-storied shop fronts. Tunghai is the centre of a flourishing trade in opium, that of Yunnan being famous throughout China for its superior quality.—being more akin to Indian opium, say the smokers, than is the lighter drug of Szechuan. We slept here in a temple converted into an inn; the inn, as are many in Yunnan, being kept by a native of Szechuan.

III.

We crossed the southern lip of the basin of the Eastern Sea by an ascent of 900 feet, traversed another moorland and then descended 600 feet by a very rough path composed of a white limestone shale, with frequent minor ascents and descents, into the basin of Chungkopa, "Central River Flat"—a fertile rice plain surrounded by wooded mountains. Thence the path descended rapidly through a thickly wooded valley, so much so that we could have imagined ourselves in Thuringia rather than amongst the usually bare-burnt mountains of China. The glen we were now traversing was indeed very beautiful, terminated in two limestone portals, barely 100 yards apart, which opened on to a wide well-watered valley, terraced with rice fields. We had now effected a net descent of 250 feet below the level of Tunghai; the inhabitants of the picturesque glen through which we had just passed were mostly disfigured by goitre. They told us the land was "cold" and that both the crops and the water were indifferent.

We now descended into the extensive valley of Kwangyi, through which flows a swift-running, wide, shallow, muddy river coming from the mountains to the West and spreading out in many channels over the here level plain. We crossed its different arms and intervening sandbanks by a narrow wooden pile bridge, 500 yards long. Then, across a second swift, deep stream and over a low divide, a slippery clay-shale path brought us to the walled city, where we put up for the night, glad to get out of the rain which had fallen heavily every day since our departure from Yunnanfu.

Kwangyi is a city of ruins. The landlord of the newly-built spacious inn told us that it was now only inhabited by 300 families, whereas before the Mahomedan rebellion it had held 3,000 families. This city was a stronghold of the Mahomedans, who held the place from 1860 to 1867 until it was finally taken by assault by the Imperialists and its inhabitants put to the sword, the Futai rewarding his soldiers by unlimited license, as was common in the religious wars in Europe three centuries earlier. In 1903 Kwangyi had again the ill-luck to be overrun by rioters, this time from the neighbouring prefecture of Linngan. The walls were in ruins and we passed

out the next morning through the south gate of the city, of which nothing remained but the bare brick lining of the ancient archway. The Kwangyi basin appears to have been scooped out of a marly white shale and so its surrounding hills are less precipitous; it is about six by three miles in extent and its margin little over 500 feet high. The path up the lip had been worn into a defile overarched by flowering shrubs and trees, and down which rushed a torrent, in places two feet deep, through which our coolies had perforce to wade. There are much woodland and pine groves on the slopes of the mountains bordering the defile, which rise to a height of about 1,000 feet on either side of the narrow roadway. This "stage" ends at Hsin-fang, a poor village of adobe houses (common throughout Yunnan) with flat roofs of clay and lime spread upon rafters of fir poles. The basin of Hsin-fang measures some eight miles by four, and is filled with terraced paddy fields. As we descended the glen which breaks through the boundary ridge, we had a fine view of lofty ranges to the south, amidst which scattered rainstorms were falling; we had now, after an endless succession of ascents and descents, reached a level 1,500 feet below Yunnanfu, and the temperature was distinctly milder. We flattered ourselves that we were now steadily descending to the Red River valley which, at Manhao, about 400 miles from the sea, stands at an elevation of 600 feet, but the sequel showed us that we had still many long ascents to overcome, and we understood why the railway engineers had abandoned the obvious line along the high road for the unpromising country through which it is now being built.

The soil still consists of a dry-looking porous limestone detritus, with projecting cliffs of hard limestone with red and white faces, and the country generally, after leaving the paddy and maize in the bottoms, is unfruitful, wild-looking, and in no way picturesque. Over such desolate moorland we crossed, the next day, a plateau-like ridge, rising 450 feet above the valley. Leaving the busy and turbulent prefectural city of Linngan, the headquarters of the tin-mining industry as well as being an important opium mark, on our right, the road which hitherto had taken us due south, here turned east and south-east to Mêngtse, an important centre and the seat of a branch of the Imperial Maritime Customs, and the residence of a French Consul and the headquarters of the Mêngtse-Laokai section of the new railway. Approaching Mêngtse, now two and a-half stages distant (a stage in Yunnan averages 60 li only as against 90 in Szechuan, showing the greater difficulties of the roads), we crossed many wide substantially-built stone bridges and came upon patches of well-paved roadway, the remnants of a once Imperial highway, now mostly buried under the accumulated soil borne down by centuries of rain and wind. We halted at Mientien, a village almost totally destroyed in May 1903 by the Linngan rebels under Chou-ma-tse (pock-marked Chou), and on the following day diverged from the main road to Chikai, our next stage, to visit the famous Yentsetung, the Swallows' Cave.

The Swallows' Cave shows no signs of its existence from the outside. You approach it by a small footpath winding over rolling moorland until a very ordinary-looking Chinese temple is visible in a fold of the hill surrounded by the usual grove. We had difficulty even in finding our way there, and

were fortunate in meeting with one or two peasants in the depopulated country who were able to put us on the right road. We walked into the temple and saw nothing unusual in the courtyard, with its standard shrubs and surrounding low temple buildings. A Taoist priest appeared and led us through a sort of back door, upon entering which one of the most fantastic scenes we had ever witnessed burst upon our view. It reminded us of nothing so forcibly as the built-up grottoes one sees on the stage in a fairy extravaganza. We had seen before many grottoes and caves such as are common in limestone regions, but nothing equal to this natural phenomenon hidden away in remote Yunnan. We now stood near the top of the grotto and looked down on a swiftly flowing river about 20 feet wide, which enters the cave from the north on our left and disappears in the gloom of a side cave on our right, its waters illumined by the sun shining through the trees which surround the entrance, 80 feet below where we stood on a narrow terrace near the summit. A steep stair cut out of aircase the rock wound round to a flat terrace, thirty feet below, lined by an elaborately carved stone balustrade overlooking the water—a terrace about forty feet square, upon which we afterwards spread our breakfast table. Side caves, also with stone stairs leading into them, fitted with shrines and carved inscriptions, offered numerous fresh points of view. Thus art had combined to enhance nature in an unobtrusive way, making, as it were, a frame for the picture. But the wonderful charm of the grotto is in its stalactites. These hang in thousands like banners from the roof, wavy, ribbon-shaped, in delicate tints of white, pink and yellow. No photograph, apart from the difficulty of finding a suitable light, can do justice to the play of colour or even of the light and shade on a sun-lit day such as we were fortunate to see it in. When the Yunnan sanatorium is open by rail, this will be one of its chief show places. We may add that the Swallows' Cave does not belie its name: hundreds of swallows flew in and out during the two hours, which we would, if we could, have prolonged into two days, which we spent feasting our eyes on this magic picture. The river, we may mention, comes to the surface again two miles lower down, and after disappearing again, ultimately reaches the West River of Canton.

Crossing over more grassy "divides," with limestone blocks protruding everywhere as thick as tombstones in a well-filled cemetery, we traversed three more basin-like valleys, all terraced one-third of the way up their sides until, 60 li from the Yentsetung, we reached our destination for the night in the small but busy town of Chikai. We crossed two rivers on the way, one clear stream flowing over a pebbly bottom to the south, on a yellow ochre stream flowing swiftly to the north, both crossed by solidly-built, wide-arched, stone bridges. Chikai is situated not far from a high serrated range, 3,000 or 4,000 feet, running east and west, and so at right angles to the prevailing direction of the mountains in Yunnan. This range, in which are situated the famous Yunnanese tin mines, dominates the Mêngtse plain, and forms the most conspicuous feature in the view from the town of Mêngtse, situated at the other extremity of the "basin." The Mêngtse "Haite" measures about twelve miles N. and S. by about half that distance E. and W., and contains two meres, the remnants of the old lake. The town is

situated in the south-east corner at the foot of the mountains which separate it from the Red River valley and which rise about two thousand feet above the Mêngtse plain. We crossed the smaller mere on a stone causeway and passed through magnificent fields of maize, the largest I have seen in China, 300 to 500 acres in extent, and the grain, now being harvested, growing to a height of ten feet—a tribute to the fertility of the limestone detritus, carefully manured, which forms the soil. Nearing the town, we found the land laid out in paddy fields, irrigated by the streams from the neighbouring mountains. These mountains are singularly bare of everything but grass, owing to the annual winter firing of the grass whereby all the young trees are destroyed. Their eastern side is now scored by the railway cutting along their flank. This runs at 1,000 feet above the plain and nowhere descends to the Mêngtse level; it enters the basin by a high pass in the S. E. corner after emerging from the head of the Namti canyon.

Mêngtse is a haïen city, with well-kept walls and a busy retail trade, but the main activity of the place is now centred in the east suburb, where are situated the offices of the Imperial Maritime Customs, the French Consulate, the extensive buildings in which are housed the local railway staff, a French hotel and three French trading stores, these latter mainly established to supply the needs of the railway people, of whom some sixty Europeans reside in this suburb and in the immediate neighbourhood. Mêngtse is the lowest town in Yunnan we had yet visited, being situated at only 3,500 feet above sea level, and the air, after our residence in the higher altitudes of the interior, felt almost uncomfortably warm. The Imperial Maritime Customs at this "open port" possess a fine compound several acres in extent, in which stand a series of isolated buildings surrounded by trees; many of these are eucalypti, which the equable climate seems to suit admirably; planted little over ten years back, they are now large trees, overtopping the native acacias. The buildings are new, the original buildings having been destroyed in a raid by the workmen in the tin mines in 1898, when the Customs staff had to fly for their lives; the raid being due to a rumour that the French were about to acquire the mines. The Customs collect dues on the goods imported from Tongking for consumption in Yunnan, chiefly cotton yarn; and on the exports, which are chiefly tin and opium; these dues are, by special agreement with the French, one-third less than those collectable under the fixed tariff,—a small boon to trade more than neutralised by the exorbitant transit tax collected in Tongking itself. Transit passes are issued here at half tariff rates and free goods from all detention at likin stations throughout the province, and the French take good care that these passes are duly honoured. Railway material and all stores for the railroad staff are imported free of duty and the land required for the roadway has to be provided by the Chinese officials free of cost. As the greater part is valueless mountain land, this is not a serious matter; only where the road traverses bottom land have rice fields to be purchased; the scale for these is ten, twenty, and thirty taels per mow, according to quality.

While in Mêngtse we received all possible kindness and information from the French heads of departments, who kindly

arranged an excursion for us to the celebrated Namti valley, in which the most difficult work of the whole route is being executed; and I must not here miss the opportunity to express my gratitude for the kindness and hospitality we enjoyed at the hands of all concerned in the work. The Namti, as the French call it, or Nanhsi as it is called in Chinese, is a stream which has its source in the Mêngtse mountains and which has cut its way down through a deep narrow canyon to the Red River which it enters, now increased to a stream, eighty yards in width, at the frontier town of Laokai, where it is spanned by a wide bridge connecting the French Settlement of Laokai with the Chinese town of Hôk'ou, and over which the railway passes. The building of the road is in the hands of a separate Construction Company working under the supervision of the Yunnan Railway Company proper. This Construction Company has been recently engaged in railway work in Salonica and the Levantine generally, and their work is let out in sections to Italian contractors or "entrepreneurs." One of these, who has his headquarters at Milati, a village situated near the source of the Namti, at a height of 2,000 feet above Mêngtse, we set out to visit. Riding up a steep pathway over broken rugged country, we reached the embankment of the line now being cut out along the mountain side; the soil is the same as everywhere in Yunnan—red sandy detritus in which the primeval harder limestone blocks lie buried, and it was curious, in a spot where a deep excavation had been dug out and the looser detritus had been removed, to see the limestone pinnacles left in situ, awaiting removal by blasting, much as we saw them washed out and exposed in the innumerable dry watercourses with which we found the mountains scored the whole way from the Szechuan border to the Red River.

Milati stands in a charming wooded valley high up, surrounded by mountain peaks; here the hospitable Italian entrepreneur invited us to partake of an excellent déjeuner in his improvised Chinese house, the office and headquarters of his section staff, after which he accompanied us to the head of the canyon, some five miles farther south, where the line begins its romantic descent of 5,000 feet to the Red River. The Milati plateau, though broken into ridges, is a comparatively level basin surrounded by peaks covered with thick forest containing many fine trees of varied sub-tropical growth, the few villages being entirely hidden in foliage. Towards the southern end of this high basin the Namti river has worn its way deep down through the soil into the underlying limestone, in which it has cut out a miniature gorge lined with vertical cliffs only a few yards apart. As it approaches the defile leading to the river, it breaks into falls, and lower down these are found of sixty and a hundred feet in height, and the railway is carried alongside of them, the line being run by the side of the gorge, piercing projecting points by over fifty tunnels, the longest of which extends a distance of 500 yards. Owing to the valley being practically confined to the width of the river bed and to its being enclosed between by high mountains on either side (encaissé), it is so confined and so closely shut in that, as the tropical lowlands are approached, the air is completely stagnant, and so unhealthy that all employed in it, as well natives as Europeans, sooner or later succumb to the malaria which is here of a deadly kind. The mortality

this year has been so great that work was practically suspended,—to be resumed on the return of the cold season, provided sufficient coolies can be found to work there. Nothing will induce the Yunnanese to descend from their plateau nor, per contra, will the Annamites leave their tropical rice-swamps for higher levels. Thus, not only are the natural difficulties of the land almost insuperable but a still greater stumbling-block is the task of obtaining the requisite labour to overcome them. In truth, the completion of this railway in the wilds will be a lasting tribute to the boldness of its conception and to the determination and perseverance with which it will have been carried to a successful conclusion. These eighty odd miles through the gorge of the Namti form the crux of the whole undertaking.

IV.

Parting with regret from our kind host, Mr. Neumann, the commissioner, we left Mêngtse by the high road over which passes the by no means inconsiderable trade at present carried on between French Indo-China and the province of Yunnan, a trade conveyed entirely by pack-animals, mainly for whose benefit exist the fine fields of maize that distinguish all this region. After traversing the usual narrow path between paddy-fields we commenced the ascent of a low pass crowned by an imposing gateway, past groves of the wide-spreading W'an-nien-ching (myriad years green)—a tree not unlike the ban-yán; then over a treeless grassy upland, after which we descended again into a wide well-watered valley terraced in rice-fields now harvesting, then rose again by a well-paved path skirting another richly cultivated and well-wooded valley on our left, until the paved road disappeared under an accumulation of soil which the heavy rain that now began to fall soon reduced to a wretched quagmire. From this time on we saw no more cultivated, or even inhabited country, barring halting places for the pack animals on the mountains, and the transshipping stations cleared out of the jungle that lines the Red River, until we reached the populous Annamite delta, now three hundred miles distant. We were still ascending the southern lip of the Mêngtse "cuvette" by a rise of over 3,000 feet, a distance of seven or eight miles over barren limestone ridges until we reached an upland whence the eye extended over countless peaks and pinnacles,—the summit of the high range that forms the north shore of the Red River. This upland was remarkable from the number of "mamelons" from one hundred to two hundred feet in height, which rose from the level surface,—steep cones of limestone, the formation consisting of strata lying at an angle of 45 or 50, the slope on one side, the edges of the strata on the other; but how denudation has produced such a series of perfectly shaped cones, it is difficult to explain alone in the relative hardness of the stone of which they are formed to that of the mother formation. Crossing this upland we encountered a high cold wind, which chilled us to the bone and we were right glad when, after cautiously feeling our way over the rough descent, an hour after dark we took shelter for the night in a small "horse" inn in the little village of Shuitien, 2,000 feet below the summit.

We left Shuitien by a narrow defile with fine mountains on either side and followed down a small stream, which we quitted to suddenly ascend a pass of four hundred feet on our left whence we looked down direct upon the valley of the Red River. The river itself is too closely shut in its ravine to be visible until quite near but we were able to see the corresponding high range which bounds its right bank and so knew that we were at last approaching the

termination of our long land journey and were at the point of exchanging the vicissitudes of inland travel for the comparative luxury of the water.

The crest of the high range before us forms, in part, the boundary between Tongking and China, the Red River not forming the boundary until the French frontier station of Lung-pô is reached, some fifty kilometres below Manhao and sixty above Laokai; at which point the river finally crosses the frontier and from thence onwards flows entirely through French territory until its embouchure is reached in the Gulf of Tongking below the port of Haiphong.

These forest-covered mountains must, in ancient times, have formed an impassable barrier between Tongking and China, and account for the marked distinction in race between Annamites and Chinese. A wide belt of unpopulated country separated Yunnan as well as Kuangsi and Kuangtung from the Annamite region.

We now descended some five hundred feet in about five hours and dropped even more suddenly from a temperate into a tropical climate than we had risen three months previously from the stagnant valley of the Kiu-sha on to the breezy uplands of Yunnan. As we turned a corner of the little village of Taotao we really felt as though entering the door of a hot house, and the illusion was completed by the change to the tropical vegetation by which we were now surrounded. Taotao is remarkable as being the spot at which the trains of pack-mules and sore-backed ponies pass the night before descending to the port of Manhao; it being reputed fatal for man or beast to pass the night in that deadly spot. So the men load up their beasts in the early morning, descend to Manhao and there deliver their packs, receiving their return loads the same day and re-ascending to Taotai the same night to sleep. At length, when about eight hundred feet above it and half-way between Taotao and Manhao, we caught our first sight of the famous river, our goal for so many days past,—a narrow ribbon of smooth oily-looking pink-red water between steep green banks, the hills opposite covered with dense tropical jungle and with no signs of cultivation. The river appeared small and insignificant though its valley is imposing from the height of the steep mountains that form its shores. No bribe will induce a Yunnanese to pass a night there nor indeed to descend within a day's journey of the Red River on any terms.

It was extraordinary the stories we heard in Yunnanfu and Mêngtsa of the deadly air of this valley and, had we not been old travellers, we should have been persuaded either to put off our journey thither until midwinter or to return by land the way we had come. The Chinese, with the exception of the natives who are born and live in them, seem far more susceptible to malarial influences than even Europeans are, and it is a fact that numbers of Szechuan and Yunnan coolies who, under the temptation of high pay, have consented to go to Manhao, have fallen sick and died there. Hence nothing would induce our own servants, who had promised to accompany us to the end of our land journey, to go on with us when the time came, and we were compelled to send them home from Mêngtsa and from thence on to "do" for ourselves until we ultimately got on board the "Messageria Suiyides" steamer in Laokai.

We put up for the night in a Cantonese inn in Manhao, which is a small place built on a narrow flat along the left bank of the Red River, and arranged to take passage in a native boat, the size of a small "wupan," floored with slabs of tin, to Laokai for the sum of thirty dollars. Manhao seemed very quiet and still, the business of the place,—the unloading and reloading of mules and the transfer of their

packs to and from the boats moored under the bank,—being over for the day at the time of our arrival shortly before sunset. The one street is composed of Cantonese "hongs" who attend to this business. The air was certainly hot and steamy and between the showers the sun was intensely powerful, but otherwise we noticed no difference in the climate from what we had experienced on similar days at the same season of the year in Chungking. All the same, we were glad to get on board our boat the next morning and we rowed rapidly down stream. The river below Manhao, the head of junk navigation, runs from one hundred to one hundred and fifty yards in width and flows down to Laokai in an almost continuous rapid.

In the first forty miles we traversed fifteen true rapids, similar to those on the Min River above Suifu which, but for our experience on the Yangtze and the adept management of the Chinese boatmen, we might have thought alarming. The whole way the banks were covered with impenetrable jungle, masses of wild banana and many unknown trees and flowering shrubs, acacias predominating, but all weighed down by an omnipresent creeper, a sort of convolvulus which gave to the landscape a monotonous one-shade of bright green, and so destroyed the variety we had expected to see in tropical scenery. The jungle is so thick that no towing path exists and the upward-bound junks are slowly propelled by painful poling along the shore. We made the downward journey to Laokai of about eighty miles in ten hours but were told that the upward journey under favourable conditions occupies as many days and, when, as now, the freshets are on, it takes a full month to get from Laokai to Manhao. Yet the scenery as we rushed past it, was very pleasing, owing to the steepness of the wooded foothills that formed the banks and the picturesque outline of the lofty jungle-covered mountains behind them. Each bend in the river, and there were many such sharp turns, disclosed a new picture and showed up new peaks in the distance.

At noon we came to a small clearing in which stands the village of Shinkai (Newmarket), which seems now to have been abandoned for Manhao, thirty miles higher up. Shortly after, we came to the French military frontier station of Lungpô, consisting of a small clearing on the right bank in which stands a white-washed bungalow surrounded by palisades with a few low thatched native cottages in the rear. At length, at sunset our boatmen moored alongside a steep muddy bank, while we demanded to be landed in Laokai.

Never before in China have I been so nonplussed by a total inability to comprehend a word of the language of our boatmen. These appeared to be Cantonese by origin, but speaking a dialect, a mixture of Cantonese and Annamite. We shouted "Laokai," but they only pointed down river, and so instead of putting up at the hotel, as our host in Manhao, through whom we had chartered the boat, had told us we should be able to do, there was nothing for it but to unpack our campbeds and await the dawn. In the morning it again poured in torrents, and nothing would induce the boatmen to move, and it was not till ten o'clock that the pangs of hunger induced me to climb up the slippery mud-bank and find out where we were. I found, from a friendly shopkeeper who spoke Chinese, that we were moored off the town of Hôk'ou, which is on the right bank of the Nam'i, the French town of Laokai being on the left bank, a railway bridge over the Nanti connecting the two places. Hôk'ou has one long, busy, very muddy street running between retail shops for a mile or

more along the left bank of the Red River. My intelligent friend informed me that there was an I. M. Customs here with foreigners in the office, and directed me to the "Ha'kuan," consisting of a sort of mat-shed built amidst the jungle on the slope of the hill, and the kindly Commissioner in charge at once permitted and directed our boatmen to proceed to Laokai and to moor below the hotel there. Our detention was due to the boat carrying tin and not yet having entered, owing, I supposed, to the rain, although no one could understand the laopan's talk; and so our troubles were over.

(To be continued.)

Law Reports.

H. B. M. CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, 13th December.
Before J. C. E. DOUGLAS, Esq., Acting Assistant Judge.

Mrs. M. J. ROBERTS v. C. McARTHUR.
The hearing of this suit to recover \$74.80 due for board and lodging was resumed.

The constable of the Court said that although he had made enquiries he had been unable to find the defendant to serve the summons on him. He had followed him from restaurant to restaurant.

His Honour said he would adjourn the hearing until Tuesday next. Unless the plaintiff knew defendant's address it was very difficult to find him, as the usher could not spend the whole of his time chasing round Shanghai after him.

H. B. M. POLICE COURT.

Before J. C. E. DOUGLAS, Esq.,
Police Magistrate.
R. v. H. M. BEST.

Henry Michael Best, a leading seaman of H. M. S. Andromeda, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Broadway on the 12th instant; further with damaging a pane of glass valued at \$36 at No. 50, Tsingpoo Road; and also with assaulting native P. C. 185 whilst in the execution of his duty.

His Worship said that he had sent a message down to the ship in order that the captain might send up an officer if he wished. The charges would therefore be heard at 2.30 p.m.

On resuming, Lieut. Kirby of H. M. S. Iphigenia was present.

Accused admitted that he was drunk, and that he broke a window, and could not say whether or not he had assaulted the native constable.

Native Constable 185 said that about 8.30 p.m. the preceding day he was on duty at Hongkew Bridge. There was a ricksha belonging to a Japanese in an alleyway off Tsingpoo Road which accused pulled out of the alley. The Japanese called witness, who found the ricksha upset and accused was lying on the ground. Accused got up and struck and kicked witness, who was obliged to blow his whistle for assistance. Before the Sikhs came to his assistance accused had broken a window. When the Sikhs arrived, Inspector Aiers happened to be passing and he gave some assistance. Accused was taken to the police station.

By Inspector Bourke—Accused broke the window in attempting to strike a Chinese who was passing.

By his Worship—Accused was very drunk, and hardly able to stand.

Indian P.C. 142, said he was on duty in the Boone Road. On hearing the whistle he rushed up and saw accused going for the Chinese constable. Witness caught hold of accused, who kicked him. Accused also kicked Inspector Airs. Witness finally got accused into a ricksha and with the aid of another policeman took him to the station.

Chang Chow said he kept a tailor's shop. When they were all outside the glass was broken. The glass was 75 ins. by 38 ins., and cost about \$36.

Inspector Bourke said that when accused was brought in he was bleeding profusely from a wound in his hand. He was sent to the General Hospital to be attended to. Sub-Lieut. Kirby said that if accused was released he was to be sent straight back to his ship by the patrol.

His Worship said that he would deal leniently with accused on the charges of being drunk and assaulting the police, and only fine him \$5. For breaking the window he would have to pay \$36. Accused would be handed over to the patrol to be put on board his ship. His Worship, as there were so many sailors present, took the opportunity of saying that during the three years he had been police magistrate he had only had to deal with two cases in which naval men were concerned—this one and another—and he hoped the good reputation they already had would be kept up.

H. B. M. POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 14th December.

Before J. O. E. DOUGLAS, Esq.,

Police Magistrate.

(HARRISON) R. LONGSTAFF AND TAIT.

Alfred Longstaff and William Tait, mate and chief engineer respectively of the s.s. Nigretia, were summoned for refusing to obey the lawful commands of the master, Samuel Harrison, at Shanghai on the 14th December.

Samuel Harrison, master of the str. Nigretia, said that Alfred Longstaff was on his articles as mate and William Tait as chief engineer. (Articles produced.) The defendants had refused to accompany the vessel to Vladivostok. Otherwise they had done their duty properly and as usual. The second mate, second and third engineers, cook and steward, boatswain and carpenter, and one ordinary seaman had also refused to proceed. They were the only Europeans in the ship. The other men had agreed to abide by the decision in the case of the men summoned. The articles were signed on the 16th December 1903. The shipowners were Messrs. Allan & Co. of Newcastle-on-Tyne. The ship was now chartered by Messrs. Moller Bros. as agents for Mr. Serenik. The charter was for two months with the option of a third. The cargo to be carried to Vladivostok was kerosene oil in cases and absolutely nothing else as far as complainant knew. The ship was loaded, and he believed that there was nothing in the ship except the oil. The ship was not carrying any mails or passengers. The ship was not in any way engaged in the service of either of the two belligerents. Complainant had never heard of any notification of a blockade of Vladivostok and had received no notice of any.

Cross-examined—Complainant first heard that war had broken out while he was at Singapore or Colombo; he could not remember which. It was about the 2nd of March. The ship called at Singapore for orders. Complainant first informed the de-

fendants that the ship was proceeding to Vladivostok on arrival at Shanghai on the 8th inst. They then declined to go, as they considered there was an extra risk which they refused to take. Complainant inferred that the existence of mechanical mines in the neighbourhood of the harbour was the cause of the objection. No other reason was given, but they mentioned the possibility of capture by the Japanese, though that did not weigh with them so much as the mines. It was also mentioned that Vladivostok might be bombarded; in fact all the circumstances that probably could be enumerated were enumerated. Complainant had followed the sea for 30 years. He could not express an opinion as to whether the articles contained an obligation to proceed to Vladivostok under the circumstances.

His Worship pointed out that complainant could not relieve him (the magistrate) of his duties.

Complainant thought it probable he could supply the places of these men in Shanghai. He desired to protect himself by these proceedings and he wanted to get to Vladivostok. He had no other complaint against these men.

Mr. Browett, for defendants, stated that the only question raised was whether under the circumstances the master's order was a lawful one, or to be necessarily obeyed in accordance with the articles.

Defendant Alfred Longstaff, first officer of the Nigretia, said he had signed on the ship's articles. He first heard of the outbreak of war on arriving at Colombo. Last Thursday complainant told defendant that the ship was going to Vladivostok and he (defendant) replied that he declined to go. His reason given was that the place was laid over with uncharted mines. He also said that a Japanese squadron might bombard the place at any time while they were inside; also he referred to the danger of capture by the Japanese. Defendant considered it against his personal safety to agree to go there. None of these risks were contemplated by him when he signed on the articles.

By the Court—The articles were for three years or until the return of the ship to the United Kingdom. He had not considered, before signing the articles, the extreme likelihood of a naval war breaking out before they expired. The cargo was supposed to be petroleum oil, but he would not like to say what the cases might contain. He had seen kerosene oil running out of some of them.

His Worship—Which do you consider the more perilous going into Vladivostok at present or going trawling in the North Sea with the Baltic Fleet about?

Defendant—I don't know, Sir; about the same risk. (Laughter).

Defendant, William Tait, without being sworn, said he took up exactly the same position as Mr. Longstaff.

In reply to his Worship, Mr. Browett said he had no knowledge of a blockade of Vladivostok, nor did he raise that point. In regard to whether kerosene might be deemed contraband or otherwise he presumed a distinction would be drawn between oil for the use of the inhabitants of the country and oil for the use of troops. That rested for proof with the ultimate consigners of the cargo.

His Worship—Who are the consignees?

Complainant was not able to say.

Mr. Longstaff said a Mr. Hermann was the consignee at Vladivostok and a Mr. Giffre-ki, or some such name, at Harbin.

Mr. Browett observed that both places were, in common knowledge, almost entirely occupied by troops.

His Worship pointed out that kerosene oil was not mentioned in the list of articles under conditional contraband in the Japanese proclamation.

Mr. Browett remarked that oil would be very useful for lighting purposes at Vladivostok, particularly at this time of year.

Defendant Longstaff, recalled, said he was a married man with two children.

Defendant Tait, sworn, said he was a married man, but without children.

Complainant, replying to his Worship, said he could not give the latitude of Vladivostok without reference to the chart, but it was certainly within the articles.

Mr. Browett submitted that defendants were perfectly justified in refusing to proceed to Vladivostok under the circumstances. It was a matter of common knowledge that the Russians were not particular as to where they laid their mines, or where they left them, or where they allowed them to wander. Therefore it was not only a question of being piloted through a channel between mines, but a steamer going to Vladivostok ran very considerable risks, as it might at any time come in contact with a mine whose location was unknown to the pilots. Again supposing the ship got inside there might come a bombardment or a blockade at any time. Mr. Browett referred his Worship to the decision of Lord Kenyon in the case of *Limland v. Stephens*, reported in 3 *Aspinall's Reports*, p. 269, as supporting his contention that the summonses should be dismissed.

His Worship proposed to give a decision in writing next morning at 10 a.m.

Complainant—Then I shall be unable to get away for another day.

His Worship—Why?

Complainant—To come here first and pay off these men and take on a fresh crew will make it to late.

His Worship—It is not yet settled you will have to pay them off.

Complainant—But in case, I do.

Judgment was reserved until 6 p.m.

On resuming at 6 p.m.,

Captain Samuel Harrison (recalled) said the European members of my crew are engaged on home rate of wages, i.e., considerably less than what I should have to pay for engaging a fresh crew. These men, if re-engaged here, would be engaged on the scale of wages usual on the coast.

JUDGMENT.

This is a summons taken out against Alfred Longstaff chief officer of the s.s. Nigretia and one against William Tait chief engineer of the same ship, charging them for that they have been guilty of wilful disobedience to the lawful commands of the master, Samuel Harrison, contrary to Sec. 225, sub. sec. (b.) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894.

The defence raised is that the command consists of an order to proceed to sea with a cargo of kerosene oil for Vladivostok, a port at present in the occupation of the Russians, now at war with Japan; that in going to that port the crew will incur dangers other than those which they are required to incur under their articles of agreement and the conditions of their service and that consequently the command of the Captain is not a lawful command within the meaning of the said section.

The dangers which the defendants allege they will incur are: (1) damage from mines protecting Vladivostok, (2) damage from the possibility of the place being bombarded after they get there, (3) risk that the ship may be taken into possession by the Japanese for investigation as to the nature and destination of the cargo.

Now there is no question but that Vladivostok is within the degree of latitude within which these men have contracted under their articles to serve, and it is not contended for the defence that Vladivostok is blockaded or that the ship is engaged in any "unneutral ser-

vice" on behalf of either belligerent. With regard to the question as to whether or no this ship is carrying contraband of war it has only been contended that the cargo is of such a nature that there is a risk that the Japanese may require to take the ship into Saeho for investigation. In this connection it may be well to mention that Saeho is within the latitudes within which these men have agreed to serve.

From the list of articles declared to be contraband by the Japanese Government it does not appear that kerosene is contraband, and there is nothing before me to lead me to suppose that this ship runs on account of her cargo, any special risk of capture beyond the risk run by any ship sailing for a belligerent destination. I may point out that in time of war every neutral ship on the high seas has to submit to the exercise of the right of search, and experience has shown that this right is not always exercised without risk to the neutral ship.

I am of opinion that under the circumstances before me, the command of the master is a lawful command. It is obvious that the outbreak of any big naval war is likely to cause additional perils to peaceful merchant shipping, and these perils have been increased by the range of modern weapons and the employment of mines, etc., but I know of no authority for any general proposition that the outbreak of war alone, and the perils consequent thereon, modifies the agreements of crews of such peaceful merchantmen. There is authority for the proposition that a man is not excused from carrying out his contract by reason of the fact that difficulties and dangers have arisen before the contract is completed which were not foreseen or contemplated at the time of the making of the contract.

In proceeding to Vladivostok the Captain is *prima facie* doing nothing which a peaceful trader is not entitled to do unmolested by either belligerent, and I cannot excuse these men from the obligations required of them by their articles on the ground of the perils which they have all-g-d may possibly exist in such performance.

Under the circumstances I shall only impose a fine of one day's pay on each of the defendants, but should they continue to refuse duty the Captain will be entitled to bring them again before me under sub sec. (c) of the same section of the Act when they will run the risk of undergoing a term of imprisonment.

J. C. E. DOUGLAS.
Police Magistrate.

U. S. CONSULAR COURT.

Shanghai, 9th December.

Before JOHN GOODNOW Esq.,
Consul-General, Acting Judicially.

ZE-LAY v. MONTROSE K. NEWMAN.

Defendant in this action had been summoned to attend for examination as to his means, he having confessed judgment for Tls. 3,693.98.

Mr. W. North Symonds appeared on behalf of the plaintiff.

Before calling on this examination, his Honour announced his decision in regard to the various claims for priority put in by creditors. Preferential treatment was accorded the claims for rent of the house, 14 Markham Road, and the office, 2, the Bund, permission was given to Mr. Rosenthal to take away a typewriter on the ground that it had only been sent in on approval and the ownership had not passed to defendant. The claims were

disallowed of Messrs. Tai Chong, for furniture, Mr. Rosenbaum for harness, the Shanghai Gas Company for gas fittings, and Messrs. Framjee, Sorabjee for articles of food. Further facts were asked in regard to a typewriter, the subject of a claim by Mr. Bickerton.

Mr. Symonds argued that in the disposal of the proceeds of the execution the claim of plaintiff in this action should rank *pari passu* with that of the plaintiff in the suit of Lee Yuen-hersch v. Newman.

His Honour ruled that the plaintiffs were severally entitled to satisfaction out of the goods belonging to defendant that they had severally shown to the Court.

Mr. Symonds stated that this meant a hardship to his client since the plaintiff in a suit filed only a few days earlier had already shown to the Court most of the defendant's goods.

Mr. Wilson, on behalf of the Gas Company, argued that priority should be given to their claim in respect of a gas stove supplied on the hire-purchase system, but his Honour decided that the claim must rank with the others.

Defendant was now called for examination.

Defendant's brother—He is not present.

His Honour—Where is he?

Mr. Newman—He is gone to Hongkong.

His Honour—A warrant will be issued at once for his arrest and he will be brought before the Court immediately he can be seized. He has been served with notice to appear in these proceedings and also in others for to-morrow.

The examination was adjourned *sine die*.

Shanghai, 10th December.

LEE YUEN-HERSCH v. M. K. NEWMAN.

There was a further hearing in this case.

Mr. L. E. P. Jones appeared for plaintiff; accused was not present.

The charge of obtaining money by false pretences, namely to the amount of Tls. 5,000 by means of the false pretence that certain electric light machinery had been ordered by defendant from the New York Export and Import Co., was first dealt with. The complainant's receipt for the money, endorsed by accused, was filed, as well as a letter from the New York Export and Import Co. saying that no contract was made by the Company with accused or the International Commercial Co. A tender was made for the machinery, but it was not for \$40,000.

Newman having been arrested on the 12th November, and having been released on his own recognisances and Tls. 800 bail, Mr. Jones asked that the bail should be forfeited, and His Honour said it would be. He would issue a warrant that day. R. H. Newman had come to him the previous day and stated that he had a bill of sale on his brother's office furniture.

R. H. Newman handed in the bill of sale. It was executed on the 26th January last for Tls. 1,500.

His Honour said that although the execution was made in favour of the plaintiff, other creditors could question this bill if they liked.

R. H. Newman then took the stand. He said he was the brother of M. K. Newman. The furniture mentioned in the bill of sale was, at the time the bill was made up, at No. 17, Nanking Road, their old offices. Witness came to Shanghai in January; the furniture was bought by his brother, partly from Vanell and witness thought it was paid for.

By Mr. Jones—Witness advanced the Tls. 1,500 to his brother in various amounts.

By Mr. Symonds (representing another creditor)—Witness's brother prepared the bill of sale himself and brought it round to the Consulate.

His Honour said that the document appeared to be in order.

Witness said he did not know where his brother got the money to pay for the furniture from. He was sure it was not from Mr. Zee Lay.

By his Honour—Witness paid the money in several amounts in cash, between the first of January and the date of the bill. He got the money by the sale of certain merchandise, disinfectant machines, for which he was paid in cash.

Pressed by his Honour, witness finally stated that he had advanced his brother about Tls. 925. He was to receive \$25 per month rent for the furniture, but his brother had never paid it. He was in no sense a partner of his brother, and had no arrangement as to sharing profits with him. He was merely working in his brother's office as a clerk at a salary of \$200 per month. Witness kept the cash book. He did not know of any other books being kept. So far as he knew there was no ledger. Witness came out on his own account. It was true to a certain extent that they were merely brothers acting together and that his brother had not regarded him as a creditor. Witness never, so far as he knew, signed for the company. When accused was at Ningpo he sent witness instructions which he had to work out as best he could. He could not remember whether he had told a certain Mr. Ting that a document sent up by his brother was a false one.

Mr. Jones said that the house furniture was to be sold on Wednesday. No definite date had been fixed for the sale of the office furniture.

His Honour adjourned the Court to prepare a decision on the bill of sale question.

THE MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 8th December.

Before Mr. SUN (Assistant Magistrate) and Dr. S. P. BARCHET (U. S. Assessor).

Solomon Redivivus.

An unemployed native was charged with stealing 30 yards of broadcloth from No. 24, Kiangse Road, on the 18th November; also with breaking into and entering the premises, No. 24, Kiangse Road, on the 4th instant, and stealing therefrom three rolls of sateen. The owners of the stolen goods were Messrs. Diederichsen, Jebson and Co., and the property was valued at \$100.—The defendant admitted his crime.—The Assessor stated that the goods had been pawned for \$23 and the Court proposed to allow the defendant three days in which to find the money to recover the goods from pawn, so that they could be restored to the complainants. If he did this, his punishment would be lighter. On the other hand, if the complainants wished, they could themselves pay the \$23 and recover the goods from pawn.—A representative of the complainant firm said that the goods were now of no use to his firm, who only sold cloth by the piece, and the defendant had spoilt the stolen piece by cutting it into four.—The Court eventually passed sentence of 200 blows and two weeks' cage, and

ordered the stolen property to be recovered from pawn and sold by auction, the proceeds of sale to be paid to the complainants.

The Anti-Foreign Crusade.

Four booksellers were charged with being concerned together in unlawfully circulating anti-foreign literature within the limits of the Settlement on various dates during the year 1904.—The case was remanded, to be tried before the British Assessor next morning.

Before Mr. HUANG HSUEN (Magistrate) and Mr. TWYMAN (British Assessor).

The Attempted Assassination of Ex-governor Wang.

The native schoolmaster arraigned on this charge was again before the Court.

When the case was called on Mr. E. H. Lamme stated that he had been instructed to appear on behalf of ex-Governor Wang, Mr. F. Ellis defended.

The Assessor asked if ex-Governor Wang would be present.

Mr. Lamme said he would not.

Mr. Ellis therefore asked that the charge of attempted assassination be dismissed. It was a well-established principle of all Courts, and had been acted on in the Mixed Court, that the prosecutor in every case must appear and give evidence.

The Assessor said that the Chinese authorities having asked that the case should be investigated in this Court, and in view of the information laid with the police, the hearing would proceed in the public interest.

Mr. Ellis asked if this decision of the Court was subject to appeal. In that case he contended he should have an opportunity of arguing this point of procedure before the higher Court before the hearing went forward in this Court.

Mr. Lamme argued that the policies were the prosecutors and it was not therefore necessary that ex-Governor Wang should attend. It was not necessary under American or British law, and it was not usual in Chinese law for high officials to give evidence in courts of this character.

Mr. Ellis contended that the ex-Governor was now only a private citizen and not a high official.

The Assessor remarked that both he and the magistrate had received instructions from their superiors to hear the evidence and finish the case if possible that afternoon. Mr. Ellis could lodge his appeal after judgment had been given if he so desired.

Mr. Ellis continued to argue his point without avail.

The ex-Governor's personal attendant stated in evidence that about 7 p.m. on the 13th ult., his master drove to the Chinkochun restaurant, a little way off Foochow Road, and went upstairs where witness saw a Chinese dressed in foreign clothes, who spoke to Mr. Wang. The ex-Governor went down to his carriage, but while he was still inside the restaurant, on the lower floor, prisoner came forward from outside and aimed a pistol at his Excellency. The pistol was not fired. Witness and another man seized prisoner by the hand and took the pistol from him. Prisoner exclaimed that his Excellency was selling the country and he meant to kill him. Prisoner was handed over to native constable No. 436, and the pistol was also taken by the police. Mr. Wang then drove away. Witness saw no communication between prisoner and the foreign-dressed Chinese upstairs.

Cross-examined.—The door of the restaurant was open. Witness came downstairs walking abreast with Mr. Wang. When the revolver was pointed at his Excellency by prisoner about three inches only was

showing from his sleeve and witness took it to be only an iron instrument and was not alarmed. Accused was then three or four feet distant. Witness first saw the revolver itself when accused was handed over to the native police. Witness did not question accused in regard to his remark that he wanted to kill his Excellency because he was selling his country.

Re-examined.—About a quarter of an hour elapsed between the time that witness first saw accused and the arrival of the latter at the police station.

The ex-Governor's driving mafu said he saw the occurrence from outside the open door of the restaurant. Accused stepped up rapidly to the door of the restaurant from the other side of the street; he was not running; he stood waiting at the door. Witness saw accused point the revolver at Mr. Wang and say, "Wang Chih-chun, you fearless man." He had stated at a previous hearing that the muzzle of the revolver was pointed downwards but accused lifted his arm and pointed at his Excellency afterwards. Before it was aimed witness did not recognise it as a revolver. Witness assisted in dragging accused out of the restaurant, but not in taking away the pistol from accused. He took hold of accused's hand but only to prevent him from firing. He did not know whether the revolver was loaded or not.

Native Constable 436 said accused was handed to his custody by three men; he had not previously been attracted by any disturbance. He found the pistol produced in accused's sleeve, and asked why he carried it. Witness answered deliberately: "For the purpose of killing Wang Chih-chun." Accused made no further statement as to his reason for wanting to kill Mr. Wang. Witness did not understand the dialect spoken by accused but understood enough to make out the phrase already quoted.

The Court adjourned to a date to be fixed.

Shanghai, 9th December.

Before Mr. HUANG HSUEN (Magistrate) and Mr. B. TWYMAN (British Assessor).

Judgment in the Likin Case.

In the case in which Chung Kee-tong was charged with unlawfully attempting to collect likin within the Settlement limits on various dates during the year 1904, the Court convicted the accused of the breach of Municipal Regulation XIV and sentenced him to three months' imprisonment.

Mr. H. Browett, who appeared for the defence, pointed out that the prisoner had been imprisoned since the date of his arrest—the 1st day of November—and asked that the three months' imprisonment should date from then.

The Assessor said that it was a reasonable application and would be granted.

Mr. E. H. Lamme, representing Chang Ah-foo and other complainants, asked that the warrant against the complainants, issued by the City Magistrate, should be recalled, as otherwise they would be a perpetual menace. If the City Authorities wished to prosecute these men, let them do so in the Mixed Court of this Settlement.

The Assessor said that a warrant issued outside the Settlement could only apply outside the Settlement. He certainly could not support any such application. The complainants could, if they wished, make their application to the City Magistrate.

The Anti-Foreign Crusade.

Mow Pah-zue, of Honan Road, Zun Keh-foh, of Sinqua Road, Wong Chung-sha, of Shantung Road, and Per Sze-zeh,

of Canton Road—all described as booksellers—were before the Court, having been arrested on a Mixed Court warrant, on a charge of being concerned together in unlawfully circulating anti-foreign literature within the limits of the Settlement on various dates during the year 1904.

Mr. F. Ellis appeared for the defence of the first, third, and last-mentioned prisoners.

Detective-Inspector McDowell gave evidence that on the 30th November the Captain-Superintendent handed him the book produced and told him to make enquiries as to its circulation in Shanghai. The title of the book was "The Alarm Bell." (Witness produced several translations of extracts from the book, which he referred to as anti-foreign and seditious, and referred the Court more particularly to page 6 of the book.) On the 30th November a native was sent round to see if he could purchase such books and he secured twelve copies—six from Mow Pah-zue's store in Honan Road and six from Wong Chung-sha's store in Shantung Road. From the latter's store the native obtained the receipt now produced. On the 1st December witness himself went to Wong's shop in Shantung Road and enquired how they came by such books. The manager then produced an account book (handed in) which showed that only twenty-three of such books had passed through their shop. He said they had purchased the books from a broker named Per Sze-zeh. Per Sze-zeh was then sent for by him, and on being questioned, said he got the twenty-three books from Mow Pah-zue's shop in Honan Road. Per accompanied witness to the shop in Honan Road and the manager there—Mow Pah-zue—admitted supplying the twenty-three books to Per. He also produced his account book (handed in) which showed that he had at one time 550 of such books. Asked where he got them, he said from 1,731, Avenue Road, a Chinese printing establishment. Witness applied for a warrant to search the premises, No. 1,731, Avenue Road. There he found the prisoner Zun Keh-foh, apparently in charge of the books. This man, witness mentioned, was once in custody for two months in connection with the famous Supao case. Witness searched the premises, but found no books like the one produced. He, however, found several seditious books against the Chinese Government. Mow Pah-zue, of the Honan Road store, identified Zun Keh-foh as the man who supplied him with the 550 copies of the "Alarm Bell" and who received payment for such copies. Zun Keh-foh said that the originals of the books were obtained from Japan and were copied at the Avenue Road printing establishment. The man responsible for their publication was at present away in Kiangsi. Witness said that perhaps the prisoners would plead that they were not the masters of the shops. At any rate they were the persons apparently in charge. In each case the prisoners had stated that their masters were at present away from Shanghai. The broker Per Sze-zeh admitted that he purchased twenty-three books from the Honan Road store and sold them again to the Shantung Road store.

Cross-examined by Mr. Ellis—Witness said that the man sent to buy the books was not a member of the Police Force.

Mr. Ellis asked who he was, and Inspector McDowell said he refused to say; it was not necessary to state who the man was.

Mr. Ellis appealed to the Court to state whether the witness should answer the question or not.

The Court said they could not force the witness to answer the question, but if he did not, they would have to strike out of the record all that had been stated about the native purchasing the books and simply record that the witness received twelve books from some person unknown to the Court.

Detective-Inspector McDowell said that if he mentioned who the man was, the man would be in danger of assassination.

Mr. Ellis objected to such a statement. He said that it would be direct evidence, if the man came to Court and stated that he purchased so many books from certain stores.

Inspector McDowell said he might get the man to come, but the man was afraid.

Cross-examination continued.—Witness had made no enquiries as to Wong Chung-sha's antecedents. The Shantung Road store was a middle-class shop. Witness did not examine the books in the shop, nor did he direct anyone else to do so. Witness asked for the account book and Wong produced it. As far as he knew, without making any examination, there were no books of a seditious nature like those found in the Avenue Road printing establishment. Wong Chung-sha and several assistants were in the store when witness visited it. Witness did not then ask him what his position was. On entering, witness stated that he belonged to the Police Force and told the people in the shop what he called about. They produced the account book that had been handed in, and admitted that they had had twenty-three copies of the "Alarm Bell," of which they had sold six the previous day.

At this stage the hearing was adjourned to a date to be subsequently fixed. On Mr. Ellis's application the prisoners were ordered to be released on bail, upon furnishing satisfactory security to the Court.

The Trials of Jack Ashore.

A coolie was charged with being concerned with others not in custody in attempting to steal from the person of an American sailor, named E. K. Radlick, in an alleyway off the Fearon Road at 6 p.m. on the 8th instant.

Inspector Bourke said that on the evening named the complainant engaged a ricscha, and the ricscha coolie, instead of taking him to his destination, took the ricscha into a small alleyway off the Fearon Road and there dumped it down, whereupon several other Chinese—evidently in league with the ricscha coolie—set upon the complainant and attempted to rob him. The complainant managed to get hold of the present prisoner and gave him in charge. About two years ago such incidents were very common in that locality. It was a common practice for ricscha coolies to get drunken sailors in their ricschas, take them to some lonely alleyway, dump them down so that the sailors fell on the ground, and then assisted by accomplices they would rob the sailors. In one case a sailor had his pockets cut clean away while being held down by several Chinese. Fortunately, in this present case, the complainant was perfectly sober and so was able to frustrate the attempted theft. The complainant gave evidence that he was a fireman on the U. S. S. Monadnock. He came ashore on the 8th instant and about 6 p.m. came out of the Naval Club, after having supper there. He got into a ricscha and told the coolie to take him to the Customs' quarters.

Instead of taking him the proper way, the coolie went alongside the Hongkew Creek and up an alleyway off Fearon Road. This made complainant suspicious and he was consequently on the look-out. In the alleyway the coolie dropped the ricscha and with five other Chinese set upon the complainant and attempted to rob him. Witness managed to catch hold of the prisoner and gave him in charge to a Chinese constable and afterwards to a foreign sergeant. Lately no less than four men from the U. S. S. Monadnock had been robbed in a similar manner.—Inspector Bourke pressed for a severe sentence. He said that two years ago a coolie was severely punished for a similar offence and the punishment had evidently had a deterrent effect, for this was the first case in two years.—The prisoner was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment, and in addition to 250 blows at the commencement of the sentence and 250 blows at the termination.

Shanghai, 14th December.

Before Mr. SUN (Assistant Magistrate) and Mr. HIGGS (Acting British Assessor).

A Son's Ingratitude.

Three men were charged with being concerned together in stealing jewellery and title deeds to land, of the value of \$3,000 from a female complainant at No. 14, North Chekiang Road, at 6 p.m. on the 5th instant.—One of the prisoners was the son of the complainant and was blind. He had been living with his mother, and knowing that she possessed jewellery and title deeds of some value, was anxious to get possession of them, but his blindness handicapped him and he invoked the assistance of the other two prisoners. On the evening of the 5th instant he let the other two men into his mother's house and gave them instructions as to where the jewellery and title deeds were kept. They broke open several boxes and secured their booty,

after which all three left the house and secured rooms at native lodging-houses. The blind prisoner retained the title deeds and they were found in his possession when arrested. The other two prisoners disposed of the jewellery to various pawnshops. The blind man was sentenced to 100 blows on the hands, and the other two prisoners to 200 blows and six months' imprisonment each.

Robbing the Municipal Council.

A coolie was charged with stealing on various dates during October, November and December, the copper tops, value \$25, of sixty street lamps in various roads in the Settlement the property of the Municipal Council in connection with the same charge, female, who is the proprietress of a rummage shop, was charged with receiving the said copper tops, well knowing the same to have been stolen.—The evidence showed that during the past two months the copper tops of gas lamps in streets in every part of the Settlement were mysteriously disappearing. On Monday native P.C. 323 noticed the male prisoner at work on the top of a lamp, and on the approach of the constable the prisoner jumped off his ladder and ran away. The constable gave chase and caught him, and then found that the man was in the act of removing the copper top from the lamp. The prisoner admitted that he had stolen many more such copper tops.—The female receiver had paid the thief at the rate of 30 cash per copper top.—Mr. King Hiller, of the Shanghai Gas Company, identified some of the copper tops produced, and said that the damage done by the thief to the lamp chimneys and mantles would cost about \$100 to put right.—The thief was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and 500 blows, 250 to be given at the commencement and 250 at the termination of his sentence. The receiver was sentenced to 100 blows on the hand.

MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP

CURES

CONSTIPATION,
PAINS AFTER EATING,
FULNESS AT THE CHEST,
NERVOUS DEPRESSION,
BILIOUSNESS,

Nearly all our minor ailments and many dangerous diseases have their origin in some disorder of the stomach, liver and kidneys, affecting the vital processes of digestion and nutrition. In health, the daily expenditure of vital force is replenished by the digestion of food, but when digestion fails, as in dyspepsia and indigestion, the sources of bodily repair are cut off and every organ of the body is starved and poisoned. To be strong and healthy, maintain a good digestion by taking Mother Seigel's Syrup daily after meals. As a digestive tonic and stomachic remedy it has no equal. It clears the head, braces the nerves, tones the liver, assists digestion and helps you to gain strength from food—the only way it can be gained.

THE WORLD'S REMEDY

"For fifteen years I suffered from kidney and liver troubles which left me a mere shadow of my former self," writes Mrs. Amelia Le Roux, Short Street, North End, East London, Cape Colony, on June 22nd, 1904. "I lost my appetite and could not sleep at nights. I was also attacked by dizziness, which made me feel quite faint. Constipation was one of my chief troubles. Doctors were called in to attend me, but I only derived relief from their treatment for a short while. At last I heard of your Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup and I was not backward in purchasing a supply which cured me, and now at sixty-eight years I can do as much work as any person twenty years younger."

CLEANSSES THE LIVER,
PURIFIES THE BLOOD,
SHARPENS THE APPETITE,
BRACES THE NERVES,
INVIGORATES THE SYSTEM,
ASSISTS DIGESTION.

FOR INDIGESTION.

BIRTHS.

WAIGHT.—On the 11th of December, 1904, at 3, Pootung Terrace, Pootung, the wife of John Waight, of a son.

TREVOR-SMITH.—On the 12th of December, 1904, at "Wisbech," North Szechuen Road Extension, the wife of John Trevor-Smith, of a daughter.

BARBER.—On the 17th October, at 47 Minhard Road, Hither Green, London, the wife of J. W. Barber, of Shanghai, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

HOWARD-ALSFORD-SANDERS.—On the 10th of December, 1904, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, by the Rev. A. J. Walker, M.A., Charles Arthur, youngest son of W. C. Howard, Chief Tide-surveyor, I.M.C., Kiukiang, to Rose Lavinia Alsford-Sanders of Shanghai.

DEATHS.

MAOE.—On the 10th of December, 1904, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Elizabeth Mae, aged 6 years.

MADAR.—On the 11th of December, 1904, at the Isolation Hospital, Shanghai, of smallpox, Katie, aged 6 years, the third beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Madar.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.		Wind.	Direction.	Force.	Hygro-		Thermo-		Initials.
	9 A.M.	Atmos. Therm.				Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Max.	Min.	
Dec. 7	30.08	58.0 s. by s.w.			2	45.6	48.2	71.2	45.7	n.
8	30.26	59.2 s. by s.w.			1	52.5	49.1	59.8	42.8	s.
9	30.24	58.8	s.w.		2	54.1	51.4	62.8	41.1	n.
10	30.18	59.4	s.		1	56.8	53.0	69.5	48.2	o.m.d.
11	30.33	60.1	s.w. x s.		3	52.2	50.4	52.5	50.2	o.
12	30.45	58.6 n. by w. x s.			3	48.2	41.9	43.9	41.6	o.r.
13	30.45	58.6 n. by w. x s.			2	43.8	41.0	47.1	38.7	o.d.

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty haze; o. overcast; dull; r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; s. calm. Forces from 1 to 12, estimated.

PASSENGERS.

OUTWARD.

Per str. **TOURANE.**—For Hongkong—Mrs. Richardson Clover, Mrs. and Master Key, Mrs. H. Stanley, Mr. and Miss H. Wienberg, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Turner, Mrs. D'Are, Misses Clover, Beatrice Clover, and Shaw, Capt. Deinat and Cassatti, Comdr. Brueard, Messrs. G. R. Ozorio, J. A. Brand, Bikart, Aubert, J. Vaughan, and Ollan. For Saigon—Messrs. Marthe Gauthier, J. L. Moulis, Albigeois Gabriel, and Bernard. For Singapore—Messrs. R. Matsunaga, C. Koide, Gopalddass, Davies, Chauder, Eardas, Couty, C. N. Frankel, Dabel Tang, and Spitzel. For Suez—Mr. Macrolakis. For Marseilles—Mrs. Lhuillery and child, Mrs. Mignot and two children, Mrs. E. Veillon, Messrs. Guezeunec, Chenet, Leca, Sergeant, L. Guil, Barbe, and Marceau, Mangur, Kin-tchen, G. Heliot, Gimon Jean, Gochring, Charignon, Genrot Francois, Le Quellence, Tourziac, E. Grosey, A. Le Thomas, Nilson, Bothorel, C. Girard, Demoutain, Chambournier, D. Lebecq, Drouillard, Richard, G. Thome, and J. Rihand. For London—Messrs. Felicien Vin, Nilson, Bautzell, Piettersson Anderson, Yosefssan, Bengtsson, Yohanesson, Lundin, and Brundin.

Per str. **COLUMBIA.**—For Foochow—Mr. A. E. Payne.

Per str. **TOONAN.**—For Chefoo—Mr. T. Takeda.

Per str. **HSINCHI.**—For Ningpo—Mrs. A. Bennett.

Per str. **KWANGTAH.**—For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Newman, Capt. Morrison, and Mr. T. F. Griffith. For Canton—Mr. Chu.

Per str. **WOOSUNG.**—For Hongkong—Mr. Rolle.

Per str. **WINGSANG.**—For Nagasaki—Messrs. A. W. Taylor, A. Lacroix, J. Paxinos, H. J. Ostrander, S. Kubota, T. Kondo, G. Ito, Koh, K. Ishikawa, H. M. Nakakiri, H. sano, N. Doi, Yue, and Nin. For Kobe—Messrs. J. C. Crowther and Ching. For Yokohama—Mrs. A. Graham, and Tung Wo-kung. For San Francisco—Mrs. J. Woodberry, Misses Ethel and Ora F. Woodberry.

Per str. **SHENGKING.**—For Weihaiwei—Messrs. Clark, Beer, and J. Crown, and Master Clark. For Chefoo—Messrs. H. B. Niblock, C. L. Johnson, and T. Takeda.

Per str. **KWANGTAH.**—For Hongkong—Mr. C. E. McCarthy.

Per str. **YUENWO.**—For Hankow—Messrs. W. A. C. Platt and T. Morgan Phillips.

Per str. **TUCKWO.**—For Chinkiang—Rev. H. J. Alty. For Nanking—Mr. J. Langley. For Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Spackmann, Messrs. A. M. Pryce and Sonnenschein.

Per str. **KWANGPING.**—For Chinwangtao—Mrs. and Misses (2) Wade, Messrs. A. van Ess, G. Ridgway, A. Finkel, Bichach, Hermann, F. Ambon, and J. Glick.

Per str. **NUBIA.**—For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Mead, Mrs. Fujii, Dr. H. Kate, Lieut. Kleyerstuber, Messrs. E. H. J. Hogg, F. G. Robson, Bilow von Ravens, H. E. Siv, F. M. Brooks, Bastien, A. Levett, D. Fick, and N. Cito. For Singapore—Messrs. W. A. Hammond, R. Wilson, C. Roberts, and G. Brinkworth. For London via Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Barry. For London—Mr. and Mrs. J. Neave, Mrs. H. M. Bevis, Miss W. Chimmie Bevis, and Mr. F. J. Kitching.

Per str. **POYANG.**—For Kiukiang—Mr. Grundman. For Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. C. Howard, and Mr. Murray Stewart. For Ichang—Mr. C. W. Campbell.

Per str. **ANPING.**—For Chefoo—Messrs. Noschin and S. Yamaguchi.

Per str. **KLANGFOO.**—For Hankow—Messrs. Wong, Venturi, and Bartolini. For Chinkiang—Mrs. Wong.

Per str. **POOCHI.**—For Wenchow—Mr. Liu.

Per str. **HSINYU.**—For Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. Smith.

Per str. **HSINCHI.**—For Ningpo—Mr. Chow.

Per str. **SEYDLITZ.**—For Yokohama—Misses (2) Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Hudson, Mrs. Tuttle, Messrs. Maass, G. Diederichsen, Carl Trobrius, Edward Bahr, and Spencer. For Nagasaki—Mrs. Aragi Messrs. Walter Vogler, Charlie H. Cole, Young, Pemberton, Siemens, Gordon L. Watson, Evans, Edward Thompson, Henrys, Zee Shu-van, Charles W. Diehl, and S. Makins. For Kobe—Messrs. E. L. Miles, H. Aubert, B. T. Shroff, and Tata.

Per str. **ANPING.**—For Chefoo—Mrs. Wavell.

Per str. **HSINFUNG.**—For Hankow—Miss MacGill.

Per str. **HSINYU.**—For Pagoda Anchorage—Mrs. Strod, and Miss May Hu.

Per str. **HSINCHI.**—For Ningpo—Mr. L. S. Webb.

Per str. **SUIWO.**—For Kiukiang—Lieut. Mellor, R.N. For Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Burtenshaw, and Mr. J. Frost.

INWARD.

Per str. **WINGSANG.**—From Nagasaki—Mrs. Smith, Mrs. An kongtata, Mrs. Y. Motokawa and child, Miss Gertende, Messrs. S. Tateda, T. Kondo, T. Takeda, K. Ishikawa, Meng Son-sang, S. Yamaguchi, Y. Shiun, Ong Ing-shong, Shing Kang, Sho Chi, Keen On-yen, K. Kawasaki, K. Ozawa, Li Tow, and M. Haraguchi.

Per str. **SHENGKING.**—From Tientsin, Chefoo and Weihaiwei—Miss Parkhill, Messrs. Dronittat Menier, and Kitching, Drs. Le Becq, J. R. Duff, Kopp, and (2) Clark, and Master Clark.

Per str. **HAETING.**—From Tientsin and Chefoo—Messrs. Faubach, Manners, Paximo, Mannmatos, Antipos, Yantiatos, and A. Gittinger.

Per str. **TUCKWO.**—From Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Goldes, Mrs. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Brown, Mrs. Fyfi, Mrs. P. La Carrari, and Mr. F. Vida.

Per str. **W. CORES DE VRIES.**—From Chinkiang—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Junkin.

Per str. **KIANGYU.**—From Hankow—Mr. Andrews.

Per str. **ANPING.**—From Chefoo and Tientsin—Mr. and Miss Yu, H. E. Chang, Messrs. Wilkins, Barber, and Chang.

Per str. **HAEAN.**—From Foochow—Miss Masters, M.D.

Per str. **HSINCHI.**—From Ningpo—Mrs. Frigast Messrs. W. A. Crombie, Bennett, and Wang.

Per str. **HSINYU.**—From Tientsin, Mr. and Mrs. Croft, Mr. and Mrs. Munzer, Messrs. Pevear, Thompson, Henery, Lee Evans, Watson, Paulton, and Fix, Bros. Noel and Bithen.

Per str. **SHAOHSING.**—From Ningpo—Mrs. and Miss Kline.

Per str. **SUIWO.**—From Hankow and Port—Messrs. Macdonald, White, Hansen, and Olsen.

Per str. **TAIWAN.**—From Hongkong—Mrs. Hamilton, and Dr. Klamke.

Per str. **SEYDLITZ.**—From Bremen—Mrs. A. Varawa, Mrs. B. Coissek, Mrs. C. Fielsen, Miss Zeisler, Messrs. W. Filling and family, Kontrolleur Reinecke, Junker, Schoppe, and Sedelmayer. From Southampton—Col. P. H. Carpendale and family, Mrs. Garden, Misses C. McGill, A. Davies, Milligan, Hill, Jul. E. Walker, and Bryant. From Genoa—Mr. and Mrs. Courtenay Heffer Mr. and Mrs. Droemeyer, Mrs. Bondfield, Messrs. F. W. Winner and family, A. Kreben and family, Louis W. Duprei, A. Siefeld H. Schwabel, and Henry Humgefeld. From Colombo—Mr. J. B. H. Mussen. From Naples—Rev. W. P. Bentley and family, Messrs. A. Copazi A. Montanaro, and Lo Hai-sang. From Singapore—Count Moltke and Mr. J. W. Walbrink. From Hongkong—Mrs. Denie Blaisant, Misses Dr. Reifsnnyder and M. B. Pereira, Rev. G. H. Bondfield, Messrs. Y. Kimura, Leopold, P. Brunat, W. E. Southert, J. Blaisant, W. von Uffel, F. Koshiwakuma Paul Reimers, W. Bedenberg, Otto Johnson, H. Jensen, Harland, and A. C. Diercks.

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Per str. **KWONGSANG.**—From Hongkong—Mr. D. E. Bell.

Per str. **HSINCHI.**—From Ningpo—Archdeacon Moule.

Per str. **ATHENIAN.**—From Yokohama—Lieut. Claude Woodward, Messrs. F. E. Shaw, O. S. Little, J. L. Parks, Thos. Carter, J. W. Owen, Thos. E. Bird, Wm. McGuinness, and J. G. Tarrant. From Nagasaki—Rev. and Mrs. Newcomb, Misses Emily Bridges, May Hu, L. M. Strow, and I. Fuchikami, Dr. S. L. Koons, Messrs. Ruby Allen, Ewiler, Flasse, Muller, Bruns, Roche, and W. A. Dawson. From Kobe—Mrs. Wass, Messrs. John, Burkman, Ab. Iun, K. Shumyen, S. Izumi, and E. Yoshezawa. From Vancouver, B. C.—Mr. and Mrs. Fergusson and three children.

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LATE NEWS SUPPLEMENT

NORTH-CHINA HERALD & S. C. & C. GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1904.

RUSSIAN SAILORS IN THE SETTLEMENT

16th December.

THE pleasantly written account which we print this morning of a visit to the Russian cruiser Askold, by an English lady who has lived for a long time in Port Arthur, and has made many friends among Russian officers, has a lurid contrast in another column in the account of the dastardly outrage perpetrated yesterday afternoon on the Bund by one of the sailors of this very ship. It seems hopeless to attempt to make the Russian officers see the indecency of allowing their men to roam about the Settlements, a danger to everyone they meet. The Municipal Council has drawn the attention of the Russian Consul-General to the matter, apparently also without avail. The circumstances under which the crews of four Russian men-of-war are interned here are not such as to reflect much glory on the Russian navy; but at least it was to be expected that the Russian Admiral who is here would have been anxious that his sailors should do nothing to make other foreigners here dread the presence of the Russian bluejackets in the port. The brutal murder of an inoffensive Chinese who happened to be passing by when a Russian sailor was having a dispute with a jinrickshaman shows that no one is safe when these Russian sailors are on leave; and we trust that the Council will be backed up by the Consular Body in insisting with the Russian Consul-General that unless under proper control no Russian bluejackets shall be allowed in the Settlements at all. This is part of the understanding on which they are interned here. There are Russian officers and gentlemen resident in Shanghai who have, we are sure, as much interest as any of us in the maintenance of peace and good order in our streets. We appeal to them to persuade their Consul-General, if persuasion is necessary, to use his authority to remove any chance of another murderous incident like that of yesterday.

Our senior evening contemporary has anticipated us in urging that the murderer shall not be sent on board his ship to be tried by his own

officers. They have shown themselves, as we have pointed out more than once, utterly indifferent to the conduct of their men on shore, and it would be idle to expect them to be roused to a due sense of the enormity of the crime one of their men perpetrated yesterday. It seems that Russian sailors, at sea or on shore, are dangerous to everyone but their enemy. It must be remembered that there are about a thousand of these men here, and neither the Taotai nor the Council has a force capable of coping with them, if repressive action became necessary.

P. S.—Mr. Kleimenoff, the Russian Consul-General, refuses to try the murderer, who is to be sent on board his ship, on the ground that the murder of an inoffensive Chinese on the bund of the International Settlement is a "Military offence." The Consul-General is taking some evidence, but has refused admission to the Press.

THE NIGRETIA CASE.

16th December.

THE decision given by Mr. Douglas in H. B. M.'s Police Court on Wednesday is of wide interest to the shipping community at the present time. The point at issue was extremely simple. On arriving in Shanghai last week Captain Harrison of the str. Nigretia informed his ship's company that the destination of the vessel with its cargo of cases of kerosene oil was to be Vladivostok. Thereupon the entire white crew, including the deck and engine-room officers, declared that they would proceed no further. They had signed on the articles on the 16th December, 1903, nearly two months before the outbreak of the war, and they had not contemplated the risk of entering the port of a belligerent power. They conceded that there was no actual blockade of Vladivostok yet proclaimed, but protested that the entrance to the harbour was so dangerous from floating and uncharted mines that they were justified in refusing to risk their lives in attempting to enter it. Other objections were raised but only incidentally, and it was not seriously contended that the Nigretia was carrying cargo

other than that which appeared in her papers, or that this constituted contraband.

It was in this latter particular that the Shanghai case differed materially from that decided by Capt. L. Barnes-Lawrence (Marine Magistrate at Hongkong) just a month ago. Captain Lawrence excused the crew of the str. Salfordia from obeying the order of her master to proceed to Vladivostok, but one of the reasons he gave for his decision was that "the crew were not informed when they signed the articles that the vessel was carrying contraband." He mentioned also that "should Vladivostok be again bombarded, and this vessel be within its harbour at the time, danger to life may reasonably be apprehended," but although a similar contention was put forward on behalf of the defendant at Shanghai it failed to carry weight with Mr. Douglas.

Sympathy will undoubtedly go out to the men who have been ordered to take exceptional risks for which they did not bargain. They are brave men probably, as sailors indeed must be, but they have wives and families to think of too. From their attitude in Court we gathered that several will prefer imprisonment to proceeding on so dangerous a voyage. Though the decision may be strictly defended in law, it is distinctly against the equity of the case, for it has been unhappily proved by experience that the perils from mines in the neighbourhood of Vladivostok have not been exaggerated.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"
Service of Foreign and Local
Telegrams.

THE WAR.

TO MEET THE COMING
ARMADA.

Tokio, 14th December.*

The steamers Toyoi Maru and Kabafuto Maru have been commissioned as hospital ships.—Our own correspondent.

* * The Toyoi Maru, 2,808 tons, was formerly the P. & O. S. Teheran; she now belongs to the Chuyetsu Kisen Kaisha.—Ed.

THE SOLE SURVIVING IRONCLAD.

Tokio, 14th December.*

The Sebastopol continues to moor off Mantoushan, but appears to seek shelter at night within the anchorage with the destroyers. Of these only eight are to be seen.—Our own correspondent.

Later.*

The effect of the indirect bombardment of the Sebastopol is unknown, owing to the thick weather. Five torpedo attacks were made on her on Monday morning; but the result has not been yet ascertained. Three Japanese bluejackets were wounded.—Our own correspondent.

Weihaiwei, 15th December.

Heavy firing was heard here last night. It is surmised that the Sebastopol, when attempting to escape, was captured or sunk.—Our own correspondent.

* * Probably this firing was from the Sebastopol endeavouring to repel the Japanese torpedo-boats.—Ed.

Tokio, 15th December.

It is officially stated that six torpedo flotillas and other vessels fitted for torpedoing purposes made constant attacks on the Sebastopol, Otvaïny, and another armed vessel from 11.30 last night until three this morning in the midst of a blizzard.

A searchlight showed that the Sebastopol's bow is submerged up to the line of her forward torpedo tube.—Our own correspondent.

We have to thank the Consul-General for Japan for the following official report:

Tokio, 15th December.

The commander of the Third Squadron reports: Two torpedo-boat flotillas attacked the Sebastopol and the commissioned ship at 3.30 a.m. on the 14th inst, during a heavy snowfall. One torpedo-boat is still missing, the rest returned safely.

On the morning of the 14th our observation station and picket ship reported the Sebastopol's bows sunk three feet. From 11.30 p.m. of the 14th to 3 a.m. of the 15th six torpedo flotillas and special torpedo-boats incessantly attacked the Sebastopol, the Otvaïny, and the commissioned ship. Details are as yet unreported, but at 9 a.m. of the 15th the observation station reported the Sebastopol's bow further sunk, with torpedo-tube completely immersed.

THE FIRING ON TIGER'S TAIL.*

Tokio, 14th December.

It is officially announced that the fire from the Japanese naval brigade's guns on Tuesday was principally directed against the forts on Tiger's

Tail, the arsenal, the torpedo dépôt, and the vessels anchored near.

The torpedo dépôt was on fire for about an hour; the vessels mentioned were hit six times. Three torpedo-boats were destroyed, another was set on fire, and the buildings on Tiger's Tail were badly damaged.—Our own correspondent.

THE COMING ARMADA.

London via Bombay, 15th December.

Admiral Rozhdiestvensky arrived at Angra Pequena on the 11th inst. It is reported that his ships are coaling from colliers.

Reuter's correspondent at Aden wires that Admiral Fölkersahm's squadron is still at Djibuti, awaiting Admiral Votrovsky's supplementary fleet.—Reuter.

* * Angra Pequena is a port in Great Namaqua Land, in about 26° S. Lat.—Ed.

GENERAL NEWS.

THE SENTENCE ON MR KUHN.

Tokio, 14th December.*

Mr. Kuhn, the assailant of Mr. Boyes in Yokohama, has been sentenced to fifteen months' major imprisonment.—Our own correspondent.

A SENSIBLE STEP ON THE PART OF COREA.

Tokio, 15th December.

Corea has decided to recall all her Ministers from abroad.—Our own correspondent.

THE BRITISH MISSION TO AFGHANISTAN.

London via Bombay, 15th December.

The British mission has arrived at Kabul, all well.—Reuter.

THE REFORM MOVEMENT IN RUSSIA.

London via Bombay, 15th December.

The Moscow Town Council has resolved unanimously that the following reforms are absolutely necessary: The protection of the subject against official caprice.

The abolition of exceptional laws. The freedom of conscience, of the Press, and of public meetings. Popular representation in the government.

—Reuter.

* Delayed in transmission.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT TO GO INSPECTING.

London, 15th December.

The Duke of Connaught, accompanied by his Duchess, is to start early in January on board the cruiser Essex to inspect the forces and fortresses in the Mediterranean and in Egypt.—Exclusive service.

JAPANESE OFFICIAL TELEGRAMS.

We have to thank the Consul-General for Japan for the following official telegrams:—

Tokio, 14th December.

The commander of Naval Artillery reports: "The bombardment of the 13th instant was principally aimed at the Arsenal and torpedo-depôt, on Tiger's Tail and the vicinity of the ships and boats. The torpedo-depôt was ablaze for one hour. Three ships were destroyed and one sunk, and besides some buildings were badly damaged. The indirect bombardment of the Sebastopol, which was staying outside the harbour, was suspended owing to bad weather which prevented observation.

Admiral Togo reports: The torpedo-boat flotillas twice attacked the Sebastopol on the night of the 12th and thrice on the night of the 13th inst. with uncertain result. On each occasion they were met by the enemy's fierce fire; one torpedo-boat was disabled, but was towed back, while three received one shot each. Our casualties were only three men wounded.

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE
"OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD."

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(Special Cable Service of "Der Ostasiatische Lloyd.")

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

Berlin, 14th December.

Admiral Alexieff has handed the Czar a plan for the reorganisation of the navy.

The "Petit Parisien" publishes a letter of Admiral Rozhdiestvensky, which is so far not contradicted. According thereto the overcoming of Admiral Togo's fleet is impossible without reinforcements. Furthermore the Russian Admiral acknowledges the energetic British assistance rendered to his fleet on his way from Vigo to Dakar.

The Moscow Municipal Council has unanimously passed a resolution whereby the abolition of all exceptional laws, the granting of freedom to the Press, and the voting of the budget by representatives, who are freely elected, are demanded.

* * It is amusing to note how consistently these Berlin telegrams endeavour to make the Japanese think that Great Britain is assisting Russia in various ways:—Ed. "N.-C. D. News."

The following telegrams are from the "Kobe Herald":—

Berlin, 8th December.

The Czar issued an Imperial Decree on the 7th, directing the formation of a third naval squadron for dispatch to the Far East.—"Mainichi."

London, 8th December.

It is reported from St. Petersburg that the Czar has ordered the formation of another squadron for the Far East.

The warships of the Baltic Squadron are still taking in coal and provisions at Jibuti. Some of the supplementary vessels are at Malaga.

General Gripenberg has arrived at Mukden.

The persons implicated in the navigation of the Russia torpedo boat to Libau under the pretext that it was a yacht are absent on the Continent.—“Mainichi”

The following telegram has been received by the Tokio Foreign Department:—

The British Government is now making an investigation concerning the Yarrow Company's proceedings. A representative of the firm is said to have stated that the vessel was sold to a French merchant without any idea that it would be delivered to the Russians. But the Frenchman sold it to Russia and it was sent to Libau for the purpose of being used as a torpedo destroyer.

London, 9th December.

The fact that the Japanese are sending the Russian warships to the bottom one after another, as a result of the capture of 203-metre hull, has caused intense satisfaction in both Britain and America. All Japanese Bonds have risen to-day in consequence of the successes at Port Arthur.

A rumour, believed to be based on good authority, is current in St. Petersburg to the effect that the Baltic Squadron is about to be recalled, owing to the destruction of the warships at Port Arthur.—“Mainichi.”

The Tientsin champion pony Ard Patrick arrived here yesterday morning to the Ewo stable.

We have received the minutes of the last Chamber of Commerce meeting but too late for insertion this morning.

The I.-C. S. Kingsing, which arrived here yesterday from Taku Bar and Chefoo, reports seeing two Japanese battleships and two cruisers coaling at sea, five miles south of the N. E. Promontory. Three colliers were in attendance.

The C. N. S. Ngankin, which arrived here from River ports yesterday, reports: the German gunboat Ilitis was at Hankow on the 12th instant, H. M. S. Snipe at Kinkiang on the 13th, and the U. S. gunboat Elcano at Wuhu on the 14th idem. The C. M. S. Irene was still ashore at Bate Point at 11 p.m. on the 14th instant.

As some doubt has been thrown on the recent story of the sinking of the Japanese battleship Yashima, we may mention that she struck a mine and sank on the 15th of June last, shortly after the Hatsuse was lost in the same manner. The ironclad that the Russians mistook for the Yashima when they fled from Admiral Togo on the occasion of their abortive sortie on the 10th of August last was the old Chinyen, formerly the Chenyuen, built at Stettin in 1882, and taken from the Chinese at Weihaiwei in 1895.

THERE is a rumour in the bazar, says a Burma paper, that some “Muchli-wallas” (fishermen) in England have been killed by the Russians, who, joined by the French, are making a forced march on Burma, via China and the Shan States. In consequence of this double outrage, the “Sirk-r” is sending all the converted Punjabi Regiments available to meet the enemy and many sanguinary battles are foretold. The Czar himself is with the invaders, who will be utterly defeated.

A MEETING of the Royal Asiatic Society was held in the Library of the Society, 1, Museum Road, last evening, at which a paper was read on “The Irrigation of the Chêngtu Plain and beyond” by Mr. J. Vale of the China Inland Mission, Chêngtu. In the unavoidable absence of the President, Sir Pelham Warren, the chair was taken by Mr. T. W. Kingsmill. The paper was a continuation of a former paper read by Mr. Vale, which treated of the history of the irrigation plan. This paper went into a full description of the four great dams which control the irrigation system near Chêngtu. A good audience listened to the interesting lecture including several who had visited the places described.

FOLLOWING the recent notification from the Statistical Department of the Customs, we have now received Vol. I of the *Decennial Reports, 1892-1901*. Though including only the Northern and Yangtze Ports, it is nearly as large as the previous decennial report which covered all the ports of China and Corea. Invaluable as it is to all interested in the foreign trade, covering as it does the trade, navigation, industries, &c., of the treaty ports themselves, and the condition and development of the treaty port provinces, it is made still more valuable by the numerous maps, plans, diagrams, &c., it contains. That these are brought well down to date is shown by the general map of China, in which are indicated the new treaty ports, Weihsen, Choutsun, Chinanfu, Changsha, etc. As soon as we can get our copy bound we propose to notice it at greater length.

We have received Hongkong papers to the 10th inst.—Mr. Sassoon J. David, senior partner of the firm of S. J. David & Co., of China and Japan, has been appointed Sheriff of Bombay for the ensuing year.—The Interport fours and pairs, rowed at Hongkong on the 9th, were both won by Canton.—The “Straits Times” learns that Messrs. Boustead & Co. and Messrs. Huttenbuch Bros., the two firms that had hitherto stood out, have now joined the American Shipping Conference.—The British Steamer Knight of St. George went ashore on Alligator Island near Singapore on the 29th ult. She was expected to come off after lighting.—The British Admiralty collier, Shrewsbury 3,233 tons, has been wrecked on the Bombay Shoal, 150 yards from the Baron Gordon. H. M. S. Rosario picked up her crew and took them to Singapore.—The French flagship Châteaurenault has struck an uncharted rock off the coast of Annam, making a rent in her nearly 60 feet long. She will probably have to return to France for repairs, which, however, could be done in Hongkong.—The British India Co. have got out to Bombay a new 19-knot turbine steamer, the Lhassa, 290 x 44 x 26 feet. She made a record run of 19 days from the Clyde to Bombay.

Was it conscious or unconscious irony that led to the penning of the last sentence in the following little cutting from the “British North Borneo Herald?” “Mr. Moultny Bigelow, Professor of Law at the Boston University, paid a short visit to Sandakan, arriving by the s. s. Kedah and leaving again by the same boat. During his stay here he made an attempt to reach the Gormanton caves by the Sapogaya route, under the guidance of Mr. A. Tucker Warthrop. The weather was, however, unfavourable and the party had to return, after having been weather-bound en route by a prolonged thunderstorm. Mr. Bigelow, who was a guest at Government House during his stay here, is a celebrated author as well as correspondent, and doubtless an account of his trip to North Borneo will appear before long.”—From the same paper we learn that the Rosario has been visiting Sandakan and there was an outburst of social and sporting activity in consequence.—It is suggested that North Borneo might participate in the Interport shooting competition.—Traffic on the Jesselton-Beaufort railway is reported to be increasing beyond the capacity of the present stock of passenger carriages.—We note that among the people who have letters waiting for them unclaimed at the General Post Office, Sandakan are the following notabilities: Duke de Füs; M. Mohamed Sultan; H. E. Titmus; and Mr. Chee Foo.

We have received Tientsin and Chefoo papers with dates to the 8th and 10th inst. respectively.—The quarters of the Intelligence Department of the British garrison at Tientsin were partially burnt down on the 3rd.—“The coming of spring,” says the Chefoo paper, “will be coincident with the arrival of the Nipponese at the coast, vainly looking for transports to carry them back to Japan.”—Sir Robert Bredon arrived in Tientsin on the 6th.—H. E. Count Gallina, Italian Minister, was to leave Peking on the 8th for Hankow, homeward-bound. The “China Times” says that H. E. has won the highest esteem and respect of his colleagues and of all who have come in contact with him.—The drifting ice has driven all the steamers out of the Liao at Newchwang.—The Samson, with Mr. Lawton of the “Daily Telegraph” on board, left Chefoo on the 6th on a secret errand.—Mr. Norstrom, third engineer of the Swedish steamer Karin, died on board of inflammation of the lungs between Chinwangtao and Chefoo, after accidentally falling into the river at Newchwang.—Some coolies for South Africa were raiding a Silk Filature at Chefoo for cocoons when they were stopped by a Japanese, Major Morita, and some of his men, who arrested six of them and took them to the Major's quarters. A large body of coolies then attacked the Major's house, and a battle royal ensued, the Japanese Consul and his constables at last coming to the rescue. The Taotai was enquiring into the matter.—The Taotai of Chinanfu is visiting Chefoo on business and has been entertained by the local Taotai at a banquet at the Beach Hotel.—The lightship from Newchwang arrived at Chefoo on the 7th, and two of the pilot boats are already at the latter port.—The steamer Victoria which was recently picked up by the Hounslow disabled and towed to Japan, had struck a rock and her cargo of bean cakes and skins was damaged by sea water.—It is reported that a Japanese armed detachment has been landed at

Tungchowfu to stop the shipment thence of provisions to Port Arthur.—The U. S. S. Baltimore, Commander Sargent, lately Aide to Admiral Dewey, is expected at Chefoo, to relieve the New Orleans, homeward-bound.

SUCH paragraphs as the following, from the "Peking and Tientsin Times" are interesting reading when the Government is constantly complaining of the poverty of the country:—

The new Fo Chao Light of Buddha Pavilion near the South Lake, which has cost about five million taels nominally, actually a million and a-half, is now completed, and the Court moved there for a visit on Saturday. The ceiling and walls of the rooms are painted with flowers and vines, the pillars and beams with birds, and the native paper describes it as the eighth wonder of the world for beauty and fine work.

Wz have received Japan papers with dates from Tokio to the 6th, Yokohama the 9th, Kobe the 10th, and Nagasaki the 12th instant. The Korean Minister at Peking, who has been ordered home, wires that he cannot come until the Government sends him his overdue salary that he may pay his bills.—The Suma Maru touched a Russian mine in Talien Bay on the 27th ult., and was nearly wrecked.—The Yokohama Quarantine Station's isolation hospital was burnt down on the 26th ult.—The former Ben liner Benledi has been re-named Toyotomi Maru.—The Japanese Government has ordered from Krupp's 66 guns deliverable in ten months.—The Chinese steamer Victoria, 930 tons, arrived at Nagasaki on the 3rd with broken shaft. In tow of the British steamer Hounslow.—Nagasaki amateurs gave a very successful performance of "As Once in May, and "Browne with an E." on the 3rd.—After their treatment by the Russians in Siberia, the Japanese refugees brought, by the Willebad must have been overjoyed to get back to their native towns.—The O. S. K.'s Antung service has been closed for this year. There is already a community of 1,500 Japanese in their Settlement there.—The St. Louis Exhibition was closed at noon on the 1st.—The capture of the Tungchow is now contradicted. She left Hongkong on the 2nd, ostensibly for Saigon.—The Shimomoseki authorities issued on the 5th a warning to vessels proceeding to Delny to beware of drifting mines.—The "Japan Mail" says that a movement of some importance was in progress on the east of the Shaho position, on the road from Saimachi to Mukden.—The Lilliputians gave their first performance at Yokohama on the 5th to a most enthusiastic house.—The property of the well-known Myonshinji Temple in Kioto has been seized by the Ohashi Bank, and was to be sold by auction on the 10th.—Captain Lawrence of the American barque Acme, now at Kobe, died at the hospital there on the 6th. His widow and a son of 19 are on board the vessel.—Sir H. Seymour King, the Conservative Member for Hull, who interested himself so energetically in the cause of the trawlers, has resigned.—A "Go-as-you-please" race is being arranged in Tokio for next Sunday.—The Sado Maru, which the Vladivostok squadron did not succeed in sinking off Tsushima, has been repaired, and will make her trial trip on the 20th inst. It is hinted that the mysterious yachts which preceded the Baltic squadron through the Suez Canal are torpedo-

boats built by Yarrow, and it is in connection with this that the British Government is prosecuting the firm.—The Circum-Baikal railway is already in such a bad condition that the transit of troops this winter is again to be over the frozen lake.—The delay in the voyage of the R. M. S. Athenian was due to head winds and heavy weather.—The T. K. K. has decided to build two 12,000-ton steamers in Japan, using English materials.—The work of refloating the Varyag is suspended for the winter.—A syndicate has been formed in Tokio with a capital of Y600,000 for the purpose of establishing in China a general printing, publishing, typefoundry and stationery business.

THE "Foochow Echo" of the 3rd inst. notes the arrival of Mr. C. H. Balfour, the new agent there of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, with Mrs. Balfour, and notes the departure of the interim agent, Mr. McArthur, "with the very best wishes of everyone attending him."—There is also a very pleasant account of the marriage on the 1st of Dr. E. C. Davenport and Miss Ida Chambers.

Wz have received Hongkong papers to the 9th inst.—Chev. Z. Volpicelli, Italian Consul-General at Hongkong, has received from Russia the decoration of St. Stanislaus for services to the crews of the Varyag and Koréetz.—Three Europeans hired a sampan in Hongkong, threw a Chinese youth on board overboard because he was trying to protect his mother and sister, molested the two latter, and then threw them overboard and they were drowned. The culprits then escaped to Lantau, but the youth was picked up and reported the affair to the police, who succeeded in catching the culprits in the New Territory.—H. M. S. Leviathan left Hongkong on the 5th to become second flagship in the Mediterranean.—The "Hongkong Daily Press" concludes its account of the enquiry into the recent big fire at West Point with the following report of the magistrate's finding:—

His Worship had considered the evidence carefully, and very grave suspicion surrounded the whole circumstances of the fire. There was, however, no such evidence against any particular person or persons as to enable him to commit them for trial. The inquiry may have brought out collateral facts which may be useful to people interested. There was no material for entering a criminal charge, but there were such grave suspicions surrounding the fire that he should have been exceedingly glad to have able to bring a charge against some person. The case had been well worked up by Inspector Collett, and the salvage was almost complete. He would therefore close the inquiry and order the premises to be released.—At the annual meeting of the Shanghai and Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ltd., at Hongkong on the 7th, the Chairman mentioned that the year's working showed a net loss of \$5,537, but the receipts have steadily increased since the opening of the works in March, and ultimate success may be fairly expected.—The Sherwood Foresters left Hongkong for Singapore in the Avoca on the 7th.—The International Fours, rowed at Hongkong on the 8th, were won by the Germans, who came in about a quarter of a length ahead of the English.—Rear-Admiral Count von Moltke, who came out by the Seydlitz, relieves Rear-Admiral Baron von Holtzendorff as

second in command of the German Far Eastern squadron, according to the "S. C. Morning Post."—The Tong Tak, a steam-launch, left Hongkong early in November for Saigon, and is now reported lost.

THE "Hongkong Daily Press" says that an "Imperial Press Bureau" is to be opened in St. Petersburg on January 14th next. According to the "Juridical Gazette," the new bureau will be organised under the direction of a special director belonging to the Censorship of the Press, "in order to make foreign telegrams harmonise with the national interests of Russia."

INDIAN papers to the 17th ult. are to hand.—It was officially announced that Lord Curzon was to leave England on the 24th Nov. to reach Bombay by the 6th December.—Colonel Younghusband was expected to sail for home on the 25th November.—Lieut. Lorimer, British Vice-Consul at Ahwaz, Persia, was shot in the wrist by the Lur tribesmen while on a tour through their country.—Mr. Fleisher, a German Chef d'Ordnance to the Amir of Afghanistan, is reported to have been murdered while on his way from Kabul to the frontier.—In connection with the stranding of the Baron Innerdale on the Kuria Muria islands in August last, when some of the survivors were killed by natives, Muscat advices state that H. M. S. Merlin has proceeded from Muscat to the scene of the wreck, and in conjunction with troops sent by the Sultan of Muscat has captured the murderers, who have been sentenced to be shot. This execution was to take place on the scene of the murder in the presence of representatives of H. M. S. Merlin.—The revenue of Ceylon for 1903 was Rs. 29,423,308, Rs. 2,378,928 in excess of the estimate and Rs. 2,225,252 in advance of the previous year's figures.—The Governor of Ceylon, in his address at the opening of the session of the Legislative Council, stated that tenders were now being called for for conveying mails by motor cars to various parts of the Island.—Major Younghusband will stop at Port Said on his way home in order to meet Lord Curzon and discuss matters relating to Tibet with him.—Particulars which have now reached India of the attack made upon Mr. Lorimer and Major Douglas in Persia show that their assailants were local tribesmen who had been entrusted with the task of escorting them through the confines of the territory belonging to the tribe. There appears to have been no other regular escort and they no doubt supposed they could extract blackmail from the two Englishmen with impunity. The latter, however, resisted, with the result that a *mêlée* took place in which both were shot.—A report from Kabul states that while excavations were being made on the site of an old fort two lakhs of treasure were discovered. As the coins are dated 1835-40, it is surmised that they were hidden during the first British occupation of Kabul.—The body of Mr. Fleischer, who was murdered on his way down from Kabul, was brought down to Peshawar. Native reports say that Mr. Fleischer quarrelled with the Risaldar, in command of his escort, about the route to be taken and finally struck him. The Risaldar then shot the unfortunate German twice with a revolver, at close quarters.

THE following notes in connection with the Baltic Fleet's exploit in the North Sea are from the "L. and C. Express":—

The conviction is gaining ground in Germany that the Russian Fleet on its way from the Baltic to Vigo was frightened by its own shadow. The mysterious observation of the captain of the Sonntag that the warship which was shelling him appeared to be itself the target of a second warship is now construed as proof that the Russians were firing at their own vessels, thinking them to belong to the Japanese. The Tangier correspondent of the "Lokalanzeiger" says that the chaplain of one of the Russian cruisers there at anchor has succumbed to the injuries he received on the Dogger Bank, where he was struck by a shell fired from another Russian vessel. A large number of people, adds the correspondent, have been allowed to visit the Russian vessels at Tangier, and they are all astonished at the disorder and hesitation which characterise the operations of the crews. The impression gained by the French at Tangier corresponds with the observations made by the German pilots who navigated the Russian vessels. They state throughout the voyage the Russians displayed a timidity so childish as to excite their laughter.

A London correspondent writes to the "Manchester Guardian":—A Russian merchant here has translated to me a letter which he has just received from his son, who is a sub-lieutenant on one of the ships of the Baltic Fleet. After various references to the extreme difficulty of getting a letter posted without scrutiny, the young officer affirms that the great majority of the crews—officers and men alike—were intoxicated, and gives this as the reason for the fleet being so far out of its proper course down the North Sea. "We knew we were out of our course, and had fears that we should run aground somewhere. An alarm was given that the Admiral's flagship had done so, and in the confusion which followed three of the vessels of the rear squadron collided. In the midst of this confusion we came across what we believed to be a flotilla of torpedo-boats, and as we had instructions to fire upon any suspicious craft we quickly trained our guns and sank several. Here at Cherbourg" (where the letter from which I quote was posted) "they tell us that the vessels we fired upon were British fishing vessels. That may be, as the confusion in our fleet was so great. We certainly got nothing in return; but later on in the night there was a rapid exchange of shots between our vessel and another, and it was only when we recognised from a small shell which came aboard but did not explode that the ammunition was Russian that we saw a mistake had been made and that we had been firing upon one another. We had several men wounded. Can you imagine a more unfortunate affair? But it is not surprising. Everyone, from the Admiral downwards, seems so demoralised and without heart or hope."

TIENTSIN.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

6th December.

Why not Dredge a Channel?

During the last few days the weather has been perceptibly colder, and to-day is a very dark, gloomy, damp day, having the appearance of preparing for a snow storm. While there has been a manifest change in the temperature, no ice has appeared in the river as yet, at least opposite the foreign Settlement. There is said to

be considerable floating ice about the mouth of the river. Only yesterday, however, two steamers were at the Bund. Were a channel dredged through the bar there seems no reason for doubting that vessels could come up to Taku, if not to Tientsin almost the entire year. The expenses incurred annually in lighterage and other inconveniences caused by the bar would, in the course of two or three years, fully cover the cost of making such a channel.

Good Crops and Quietness.

The reports from all the surrounding counties are for the most part of fair and good crops, and partly as the result of this doubtless, general quiet prevails. We hear little of robberies or lesser thieving, and the stories that reach us of anti-foreign agitation or feeling mostly come from a distance. Such rumours appear to have their origin more in the neighbouring province of Shantung than anywhere else, which may or may not be significant.

Trouble in Tunganhsien.

Recently there has been some little trouble in Tunganhsien in connection with an attempt on the part of the gentry to secure a refund of the indemnity paid after the collapse of the Boxer uprising. The facts appear to be these: an old Christian died as the result of fright and ill-treatment, and his family were relieved of all their movable property. After the collapse, and the appearance of foreign soldiers in the neighbourhood, the ex-Boxers—these same gentry—came forward and offered to pay an indemnity, all which was arranged through the ordinary channel of middle-men. No demand had been made on them. The official is a young fellow of about 28, who thinks more of theatricals than of his duties, and there are those in the yamen who are known to be connected with this business. He has refused to see the representative of the missionary, and when the missionary asked for an interview and he himself appointed a day for it, when the missionary arrived he had gone away over thirty li to see theatricals. Hence the case was placed in the hands of the Chinese authorities here, and a weiyuan was sent to look into the affair and effect a settlement. In the meantime, in consequence of the inaction and manifest indifference if not contempt of the magistrate for the Christians, a Christian was falsely accused of stealing grain from the fields, apprehended, and with his witnesses beaten, and mulcted to the extent of about \$200. The arrival of the weiyuan was the signal for the accusers to flee or hide away. A missionary also went to the field to watch proceedings. This first case was immediately settled satisfactorily. In the second case, go-betweens have been sent by the offending parties to try and effect a settlement, and it is likely to be arranged on the basis of a refund of all the money that has been taken from the accused and his friends. But in any case the deputy has said that the accusers must come before him, and he will remain there till they appear. Had there been a decent official in the chair, the first case would have been settled in the early spring when it first arose and the second would never have arisen.

Romanists v. Protestants.

We have recently heard of a murderous attack of Romish converts on a Protestant Christian in a village in north-eastern Shantung. The man's legs were broken and he was so badly beaten that he died shortly after. The chief murderer was a man of known bad character, and has been in the Roman Church only about three months. He is an ex-Boxer, and was imprisoned for deeds done to the Christians not long ago and has now taken this method of revenge, expecting protection by the priest. One of the mission-

aries will visit the priest in regard to the case. It is thought by many that the foreign priests give a great deal of power into the hands of the native priests and their agents, and so have no knowledge of the various outrages that are committed by their members. If this be the case, it shows a most culpable neglect of duty on their part in not keeping track of their agents (native priests and others), and keeping themselves well-informed as to all that is being done.

The Reform Movement

is gaining strength daily and all along the line. Within a year or less several schools for girls have been established in Tientsin in which English as well as Chinese is to be taught. They are entirely under Chinese control and supervision, and English-speaking young ladies have been secured for this department of instruction. It is a most hopeful indication of how the desire for better things is gradually leavening the lump of Chinese society.]

MASONIC.

The annual installation meeting of Lodge Cosmopolitan, S. C. took place last night at the Masonic Hall, the ceremony being performed by the R. W. District Grand Master for Northern China, E. C. About 100 brethren sat down to the subsequent banquet. The following is the list of officers installed:—

Bro Geo. Peace	... R. W. M.
Wor. Bro. W. B. Buyers	... I. P. M.
" " J. B. Roach	... D. M.
Wor. Bro. G. L. Oberg	... S. M.
Bro. J. A. Moller	... W. S. W.
" W. J. Solly	... W. J. W.
" J. Magill	... Treasurer.
" A. Aistrup	... Secretary.
" K. W. Campbell	... Chaplain.
" J. Burtwell	... S. D.
" W. J. C. Budd	... J. D.
Wor. Bro. A. Neubourg	... Bible Bearer.
Bro. W. Kinipple	... D. C.
" C. B. Kaye	... Organist.
" T. J. Smithers	... Banner Bearer.
" H. T. Martin	... Steward.
" H. Storm	... Marshall.
" T. W. Spottiswoode	... I. G.
" J. Gould	... Tyler.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(BY TELEGRAPH FROM PEKING.)

SPECIALLY TRANSLATED FOR THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.")

14th December.

(1) We have received a eulogistic memorial from Tuan Fang, Acting Viceroy of the Liangkang provinces, concerning the faithful and loyal services to the dynasty of the late Li Hsing-jui, Substantive Viceroy of the Min-Ché provinces and Acting Viceroy of the Liangkang, who died at Nanking last month. We hereby command that the late Viceroy's public services be recorded in the Dynastic History by the Imperial Historiographer, in recognition of his loyal and faithful services, and that his eldest grandson Li Mu-kuang shall, on expiration of his period of mourning for his grandparent, be introduced to us in special audience by the Ministers of the Board of Civil Appointments. The late Viceroy's second grandson, Li Hun-fu, who is at present expectant prefect of Anhui province, is further promoted to the rank of expectant Taotai of said pro-

vince as a mark of the Imperial appreciation of his grandsire's faithful service to the Throne.

(2) Fan Tsung-hsiang, Provincial Judge of Shensi, is promoted Provincial Treasurer of same, and his former post is hereby given to Hu Chin-kuei.

NOTES ON NATIVE AFFAIRS.

16th December.

On Grounds of Humanity.

A short time ago the Shanghai Taotai received a dispatch from the Russian Consul-General asking that permission be granted to a number of seriously ill and wounded Russian officers and sailors of the runaway Port Arthur men-of-war, now lying dismantled in Shanghai harbour, to return to Russia for treatment; as the facilities of Shanghai were not equal to the completion of their cure. This request having been duly forwarded to the Viceroy at Nanking and in turn sent up to Peking by the latter official, a reply has been received from the Waiwu-pu to the effect that a properly qualified foreign physician should be asked to make an examination of the sick Russians in question, and that if it should transpire that there is reasonable ground for granting the Russian Consul-General's request, it should be complied with on grounds of humanity. The consent also of the Japanese Government is now being awaited by Yuan Taotai.

The Reported Absconding of Russian Officers.

There being a report current that some of the members of the Russian destroyer Rastoropy, that was blown up by her own crew at Chefoo, had managed to abscond from that port previous to the departure of the Chinese cruiser Haiyung for Shanghai, a question to that effect was the other day asked by the Japanese Consul-General of Yuan Taotai. The latter accordingly telegraphed to the Chefoo Taotai asking for details, but a reply from Ho Taotai of that port has been received saying that there is no foundation whatever for such a rumour.

Educational Progress in China.

According to a Tientsin native paper, the Department of Education in Peking, which is connected with the Peking University, in a report to the Throne concerning the funds needed for the upkeep of the University itself and higher and lower schools, in the Capital alone, states that no less than Tls. 465,000 a year is required, and recommends that the provincial high authorities throughout the Empire be required to send similar annual reports to the Department. In this manner the Central Government will be able to judge the rate of progress of modern education in each city and province, and thus keep a watch on the exertions of the officials who have charge of the educational affairs of the provinces outside of Peking.

The Weather in Nanking.

A letter from Nanking states that on the 11th instant the weather suddenly became colder, with the result that snow fell, commencing at about 9 o'clock a.m. and lasting until dusk, covering the ground with about one inch or so of snow.

A Fatal Fire in Hankow.

It is reported from Hankow that on the night of the 8th instant, there was a serious conflagration in that city which lasted nearly four hours, consuming nearly nine hundred houses, the majority being of the poorer sort. It is also stated that so far as could be learnt no less than seventeen lives were lost in the conflagration.

The Honesty of the Japanese.

The "Universal Gazette" has the following, which we translate:—The government established by the Japanese in the cities of Chinchou and Fuchou (in the Liaotung Peninsula) and Haicheng and Kaichou, which had been captured from the Russians, has, after due consultation between the Chinese and Japanese Governments, been handed over to the Chinese officials, who are, however, required to govern according to certain regulations established by the Japanese when they took control of the cities from the Russians.

CALENDARS, ETC., RECEIVED.

From Max Nössler & Co., a date-block, which can hardly be considered a representative example of modern German decorative art.

DASTARDLY OUTRAGE BY RUSSIAN SAILORS.

A Murder on the Bund.

Ever since the disarmament of the Russian cruiser Askold and torpedo-boat-destroyer Grozovoi, the disgraceful behaviour of the crews of those two vessels when ashore has been the subject of much comment. Day after day the men have been ashore, and night after night have they returned to their ships in a state of senseless intoxication. It has been due to the diplomatic attitude of both police and civilians that there have not hitherto been serious breaches of the peace as a result of these drunken debauches. On the 30th of November a memorandum appeared in the Municipal minutes to the effect that, acting upon a recommendation forwarded by the Captain-Superintendent of Police, it was decided to address the Russian Consul-General and to request that arrangements be made by the naval authorities concerned to limit the number of Russian sailors allowed shore leave so that the possibility of disturbances, now arising from their presence in the Settlement, might be eliminated. That such a recommendation was more than timely was proved by the dastardly outrage which occurred on the Bund foreshore yesterday afternoon, and the only possible means of preventing a recurrence of similar outrages seems to be to cancel the Russian sailors' shore leave indefinitely.

Shortly after four o'clock yesterday afternoon two Russian sailors from the cruiser Askold arrived in rickshas at the approach to the Nanking Road jetty. One was apparently quite sober, and the other was a little the worse for liquor. They got out of their rickshas and walked down the path to the pontoon without making any offer to pay their ricksha hire.

One of the ricksha coolies followed and persistently demanded his fare. At the time there were several carpenters, employed by the Municipal Council, busily at work repairing the pontoon, and half-way down the path were some of the workmen fashioning beams into planks by means of adzes. When opposite these workmen the taller of the two Russians seized an adze from the hands of a Chinese carpenter, and swinging it round his head, brought it down with terrific force on the head of the nearest native, who happened to be an inoffensive, well-dressed man who was going to the jetty in order to cross to Pootung. The blade of the adze entered the native's head just behind the left ear, causing a fearful gash and penetrating the brain. The Russians nonchalantly proceeded to the jetty, but a native constable, P. C. 435, who had witnessed the occurrence, gave chase, at the same time blowing his whistle for assistance. Four Sikh policemen then appeared on the scene and attempted to arrest the sailors, who made a desperate resistance. The smaller and more sober one of the two made a strenuous attempt to rush the biggest Sikh down the slope of the pontoon into the river, but eventually both sailors were overpowered and taken to the Central Police Station, whence they will be taken before the Russian Consul-General this morning.

In the meantime several foreigners and hundreds of Chinese crowded round the wounded man, who was lying unconscious on the pavement, his brains protruding from the wound, and losing blood at a rate which made it almost certain that death must ensue. Mrs. Rasmussen, who had witnessed the occurrence, immediately sent her little son for Dr. Cox and an employee of the Central Hotel telephoned for the Police ambulance. At this stage there were only native police present and it did not seem to have occurred to any one of them that an ambulance would be useful. The most intelligent of them secured a wheelbarrow, but fortunately the foreigners present protested against the wounded man being taken to the hospital on such a conveyance. A few minutes later Dr. Cox arrived and almost at the same time the ambulance put in an appearance; the injured man was placed on the ambulance shutter and conveyed to the Shantung Road Hospital, where in spite of every endeavour to save his life, he died at half-past eight.

THE WEIHAIWEI GOLD MINING CO., LD.

Tiding Over a Crisis.

The crisis in the affairs of the Weihaiwei Gold Mining Company is tided over as the result of an informal meeting of shareholders held last evening at the Chamber of Commerce room, Yuenming-yuen Road. It was a largely attended meeting and on the whole a cheerful one. The general feeling, as indicated by the applause following a remark, was that the International Banking Corporation had been rather hasty in driving the company into an awkward corner, but the situation was one to be saved, and the only question was how it should be done. The Directors came in for some criticism. At the very outset of the meeting a shareholder expressed the opinion that

the circular convening the meeting might have been worded in less alarming terms, and thus the sending of the share quotations down practically to zero avoided. Another point raised was that the Board had not taken the opportunity a few weeks since, when the shares were at a premium, to issue the balance of their ordinary shares. To this the chairman (Mr. Marcus Wolff) could only reply that an error of judgment had been committed.

We hold over an extended report of the meeting, which continued for about two hours. The Chairman in an introductory statement explained how the crisis had arisen, through the Bank refusing to allow the overdraft to be increased beyond the present amount of \$38,737.68, or to continue it unless satisfactory security, personal or otherwise, were deposited against it. They had, however, agreed to accept as part payment the \$10 call on the 3,777 preference shares recently called up, releasing their lien on the property. But in the meantime the company was without money to meet immediate liabilities and unless the meeting adopted some extraordinary measures, it was impossible to carry on.

Mr. J. R. Duff, the expert adviser of the company had written a letter based on his examination after the first crashings, and this was read. It explained that many circumstances made it impossible to judge the probable outturn of gold by the results of the first crushing, and expressed the confident opinion that the mine would be paying expenses and showing a profit within three months. His lowest estimate of the average outturn to be expected after that time was 5 dwts. per ton, and expenses should be covered by 2 dwts. leaving a profit of 3 dwts. Taking 80 tons a day with only 20 stamps and 300 days in the year this represented a possible profit of \$72,000 gold.

Mr. F. E. Taylor, as a shareholder with considerable interests, who had looked into the situation carefully, made a decidedly optimistic speech.

There was an animated discussion as to how the money required should be obtained, many shareholders wishing to have a uniform call made in order to give all an equal benefit and interest. This, however, the Chairman explained, was impossible as time was too limited. Debentures redeemable in six months at twelve per cent per annum were subscribed in the room with great eagerness, and the amount required to save the situation was rapidly more than subscribed.

AFTER MANY DAYS.

BY AN ENGLISHWOMAN FROM PORT ARTHUR.

Left Newchwang the 25th November and arrived in Shanghai the 1st December, leaving frost, north winds, and preparation for skating behind me, and finding sunshine and warmth; so much so that I have been sitting with French windows wide open all day and have not even had a fire lit.

I am going to have a try here and if I cannot make things hum as I would like, shall probably go over to the States.

In any case I'll tell you what I did last Sunday. Was good and energetic and went to Church in the morning. I always prosper round and take the first likely church I come to in a new town. A propos des églises, I remember the first

church I visited in Manchester. I was starting alone and with only five minutes in hand, and asked my father which was the nearest church. "St. John's, about three minutes to the left down the Broughton Road." I was there in less than the given time and on going in was surprised to find only men folks and they were all standing. I took a place among them when a foreign-looking individual came and touched me on the shoulder saying "Ze ladies do go upstairs." "All right," thought I, "but this is something new," and I followed my guide who led the way upstairs and into a kind of gallery or organ loft as it appeared to me, for the hinder part was partitioned off by red curtains and in front were a few, a very few ladies. But here at least one could sit down. This I did and awaited events. Presently appeared a priest in a long black gown and hat without a brim, something like a pork pie, but black. He read something and walked about and made signs I did not in the least understand; then disappeared. Whilst this had been going on downstairs several people had congregated behind the red curtain and were laughing and chattering among themselves. Now the huge altar gates were opened and the priest appeared in heavy robes of silver and gold and a gold and silver hat without a brim. He read or repeated words I could not understand and the curtained-off portion of the congregation began to sing. All this was Greek to me, and on my return home I found that it was also Greek to everyone else. I had gone into a Greek church by mistake. St. John's was half a minute further on. But to get back to China. After lunching at the Astor House I determined to have a try at the Askold and got to heaven knows where by ricksha with a richman who wanted to take me up the Nanking Road to look for a big ship with five funnels. At last we got away off, right through the French Settlement and into a most Chinese Colony beyond; there after various adventures among coolies who willy-nilly insisted on taking possession of me, I at last got hold of a Sikh who knew a little English and with his aid embarked in a sampan en route for five funnels which appeared in the distance through and over a most heterogeneous mass of shipping. The funnels were yellow which made me doubt very much if after all I was on the right scent; for here none seem to know anything about the Russian ships except that they are "a very long way off."

At last we got our nose (mine and the sampan) through the maze of craft and sure enough the hull was black! Oh, yes!! You bet I was glad! On we went, the sampan man seeming to know I wanted to get there double-quick pulled and pushed like a nigger. As we drew near I saw the man on the look-out report to the officer of the watch, then two other officers appeared with a glass and evidently had a look at me. Then as we got alongside two bluejackets came down the "trap" as we call it in Russian and the officer on duty came to meet me.

"Is Dr. G. on board?" I asked. "He is on shore just now," was the reply, "but he will soon be back." Looking up I saw the commander, an old Port Arthur friend, so called out as I mounted the red-carpeted steps leading up the ship's side "Ah, you are there! May I come on board?" "Why, of course," said he, and on board I went.

"Come along, come into my quarters," said he, and in five minutes we were hard at it talking nineteen to the dozen. After telling of our mutual, or rather several, experiences "How are you off for money?" said he, "if you are short just let me know without ceremony and you can settle by and by, my boy is sure to need lessons when he comes out." I

assured him I was all right for the moment and we fell to talking again. "You must stay with us now you are here; the sailors are having private theatricals this afternoon; some ladies are expected too; come, I will take you to the recreation ground where all the others are." As we crossed the deck I went to pay my sampan but found he had already been paid and sent away. "Of course we'll send you back in the steam launch," said the Captain.

I can tell you how good it felt to be on board a Russian man-of-war and among Russians once more after so long—eight months since I left dear old Port Arthur!

From the ship to the land was a gangway and then, only a few yards off, was (and is) the recreation ground. When the Russians came they found there a bog, a morass, nothing but a few reeds and some stagnant mud. In a month it was drained and now there is a double enclosure, in the first of which are two tennis courts for the officers and in the further one the men's part, fitted up with all kinds of gymnastic appliances—swings, pas de géant or giant's steps, bars, climbing poles—everything in fact that it is possible to have within the space allowed.

As we passed in one of the first people I saw was an officer who came out from Russia on the same ship as I did three years ago—then the "Moscow" of the Volunteer Fleet, now the "Angara." Exclamations! Any amount.

Then we went on and found the theatre, a wooden building of which the curtain formed the front, behind the curtain a good-sized stage, and behind that again the dressing-room. In front of this were grouped some six or eight hundred bluejackets; all as bright and him as possible; some sitting, some standing, those nearest lying in picturesque groups plying with some half-dozen dogs also belonging to the ships.

Among the officers who came up were many old friends who, of course, needed no introduction. The commandant left us to go and receive the expected ladies and the curtain rose. Programmes were handed round, on one side of which was printed the title of the piece and the names of the different characters impersonated, on the other the selection played by the band.

The sailors really acted splendidly taking both male and female parts wonderfully well, much better than half the amateurs one usually sees on the stage.

Soon the ladies came dropping in, some after the first piece going off to play tennis. After the performance we all went on board for tea and it seemed quite like old times to be down in the wardroom, chatting over tea and various impromptu delicacies, though they said: "We cannot offer you our Russian chocolates and confectionery here—there seems to be nothing worth buying in this place." As we were talking someone touched on newspaper reports which are often more than doubtful; as for instance, a daily paper gave it on "very good authority from Chefoo," that the Ratstoropoy which was sunk in that harbour last month, was entirely manned by officers, intended to run the gauntlet and take charge of the various ships of the Baltic Fleet on their arrival and pilot them through the hidden mines lying outside Port Arthur. Such reports, known to be false, are simply laughed at by the Russians. One officer said: "Oh, make, let them write; it does us no harm and it brings them money!"

After tea the ladies left but the chief officer of the Askold and Captain B— of the Groszovoi which is lying alongside, begged me to remain for dinner, which I did and enjoyed my evening immensely. Several officers from the Ratstoropoy dined with us, and said that on their arrival in Chefoo the people were surprised to find they had not only bread but even

butter on board. Just as on the arrival of the Askold everyone was astonished to find roast beef among the provisions.

All the same in spite of their bright way of talking and making the best of things there is the seamy side. "Yes, poor old B—'s gone! What a good fellow he was; and what a comrade! you will not often find one like him!"

Then again Captain B— said "My wife? Yes, she's coming out; will be here in about twenty days." "And the children?"

"The children! Yes the eldest is coming too! the little one died on the journey home; nearly all the little ones died, there was no chance for them!" "And R—?" I asked, "R—? You know his wife died on her way home; she was in delicate health and couldn't manage the journey." "I know. But R—?" "Oh! he is alive, lost a leg though; very badly shot, had to come off above the knee. You see most of us have suffered somehow, some one way some another. Why did you hear how I— was wounded?" "No." "Had a finger shot off just as he was raising a glass of vodka to his lips at the Club!"

"It's awfully 'skootchna' (weary, tire-some, sad), having to stay here!" "Would you go back to Port Arthur?" I asked Dr. G—, "Rather! I'd start to-night if I might; and I could go, they wouldn't hinder me, being a doctor, but the Admiral gave his word and we ours not to take any further part in the war, and here we are and goodness knows how long we shall have to stay here." "And you?" I asked, turning to Captain B—, "I only wish I could, but I had to give my word for myself and my men! If we could only do something it wouldn't be so bad; but to stay here like this!"

After dinner the lunch was got ready and Captain B. went on board his ship to get into "civil" or plain clothes to accompany me; they may not go ashore in uniform. The commander of the "Askold" was coming ashore too, so we all came together and on landing found a brougham waiting into which we bundled and in ten minutes I was at home.

And so ended my first Russian day, or what has been the most like old times of any day I have had for the last eight months.

K. A. M.

GENERAL ORLOFF.

The Russian defeat at Liaoyang has been hitherto attributed to a serious blunder by General Orloff, and he was cashiered, but, according to a St. Petersburg correspondent of the "Echo de Paris," Orloff has just been given another command. The St. Petersburg correspondent of the "Matin" adds the information that it has been decided to attach Orloff to the General Staff at St. Petersburg, with the rank of General of Division, and that Kuropatkin is anxious to make reparation for his treatment of him after Liaoyang by attaching him to his own staff. He gives a detailed account of what (as he says) really happened, with the aim of showing Orloff did all, and more than he could be expected to do, and that the responsibility for the defeat rests on General Stackelberg, and the contradictory and dilatory orders of the General Staff. It was, according to this story, Stackelberg who, by not arriving in time, left a gap between the troops of Biderling and the troops of Orloff, and the Japanese, pouring through this gap, got behind the Russians. When at last Orloff, retreating, did join hands with Stackelberg, the latter, misunderstanding the situation, covered him with insults and abuse for his

inevitable retreat, and, as Orloff's superior officer, ordered him to attack at once, but only with a single battalion (which Orloff, acquainted with the position—as Stackelberg was not—knew to be quite ridiculous), and to lead the attack in person. This last order, of course, was a gratuitous reflection on Orloff's personal courage. Orloff, however, obeyed the order to the letter. He led a single battalion to the attack through the millet, which hid the men, but allowed himself, who was mounted, a clear mark above it for the enemy. Then Stackelberg, seized with remorse, sent orders forward that Orloff was to dismount. Orloff paid no attention to this order. Three times he was wounded, but still advanced. At last a bullet hit him in the stomach, and he fell off his horse. His men picked him up, the tears pouring down their cheeks, and the General made a desperate effort to remount, but fell back in a faint. He has only recently come out of hospital.—"Nagasaki Press."

MALCONTENTS.

A TALE OF THE RUSSIAN RESERVES.

FROM A "MORNING LEADER"
CORRESPONDENT.

Odessa, 14th October.

Three days ago a captain in one of the reserve brigades of the 15th Rifle Division was flung by four men of his company from a window on the third storey of the barrack, and instantly killed. Thereafter, one of the four wrote out a statement for the brigadier that he alone was the actual murderer. Then he blew his brains out.

Now, the murdered captain was reputedly one of the more brutal class of Russian officers of the old school. The younger linesmen may put up with such bullies. But the reservists are little inclined to endure them.

Only a few days previously, indeed, a sad "contretemps" had occurred, in which truly one may find the explanation of the tragedy of the barrack-room life just related. The Commander-in-Chief of the Southern Province, Gen. Baron Kaulbars, had gone to what is known as the Kulikovo Polyé to inspect 2,400 reserves.

Now, at all parades in this country it is an invariable custom for the inspecting officer to greet the men, and all the ranks return the greeting with one unanimous and lusty shout.

But when Gen. Kaulbars uttered the usual greeting, his words were met with dead silence.

Utterly amazed, but thinking that he had, perhaps, not been heard, the General advanced close up to the centre of the front line, and repeated the greeting. Still the men kept stony silence.

Then his Excellency—for the officers could give him no explanation of the insult—called out, haphazard, half-a-dozen men from the front rank. They advanced and stood respectfully at the salute.

The General gave them permission to speak frankly, and called on them to explain.

The tale they told was one of dire grievance, continually thrust on them, yet sullenly endured, because they knew no way of redress.

During the six weeks since they had been called to the colours, the reservists had been treated like dogs, fed like dogs, and housed like dogs. Now at last they saw a chance of making a pretest, and, as men of human feelings and commonsense they took it.

One reservist, in blunt and emphatic phrase, warned the General that if there were a further mobilisation in his district the reserves would absolutely refuse to proceed to Manchuria.

For this daring threat, the man was arrested and shot the next morning—but not, as court-martial regulations enjoin, in presence of, or by a shooting platoon of, his own battalion.

It is not without reason that observant men like Gen. Kaulbars, in Odessa, and Gen. Sukhomlinoff, at Kieff, look with grave misgiving upon the possibilities for mischief which reservist influence may have in the regular army.

For during the last eight months, reservists have been learning much—especially to detest the Manchurian war. And before long, these malcontent reserves will form something like thirty-five per cent of the Russian forces in Eastern Asia.—"Nagasaki Press."

H.B.M. POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 15th December.

Before J. C. E. DOUGLAS, Esq.,
Police Magistrate.

R. v. THOMAS MACKENZIE.

Thomas Mackenzie was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Broadway on the 14th instant; also with assaulting Indian P. C. 158 whilst in the execution of his duty.

Accused said he could not recollect anything about it.

P. C. Campbell said that at 11.30 p.m. he was on duty outside the Astor House. Accused came out, and walking up to the Indian constable struck him on the throat. He then knocked the Indian down and caught him by the throat. Witness with the Indian's aid managed to take accused to the station.

Accused, who had seemed to feel his position keenly, fainted and had to be taken out of Court.

His Worship offered to adjourn the case until the afternoon, but Inspector Bourke, a few minutes later, announced that accused had recovered.

Indian P. C. 158 gave corroborative evidence.

Inspector Bourke stated that accused was drunk when brought in.

In reply to his Worship, accused stated that he was earning £12.15 per month and that this was the first time he had ever been brought up.

His Worship imposed a fine of \$10 and advised accused to be more careful in the future.

THE U. S. CONSULAR COURT.

Shanghai, 15th December.

Before JOHN GOODNOW, Esq., Consul-General, and Messrs. MURRAY WARNER and J. C. FERGUSON, Associates.

MOLLER BROTHERS v. S. E. SCHWARTZ AND S. ZIMMERMAN.

Mr. E. H. Lamme appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. F. M. Brooks for the defendant S. Zimmerman.

His Honour delivered the following judgment in the above case:—

NT.

On August 20th 1904 a charterparty for the bark "Lucia" was entered into and

was signed by Moller Brothers, a British firm, and S. E. Schwartz, an American citizen. The charterparty provided that the "Lucia" should proceed with cargo from Shanghai to Newchwang via Tsingtao. The freight was fixed at Tls. 7,000 Shanghai Sycee payable at Shanghai before sailing. It was also provided "Should the vessel be captured or sunk either by mines, torpedoes, shell fire, collisions, or in any manner of a warlike description (from the day she leaves Shanghai), charterers are to indemnify the owners with an immediate cash payment of sixteen thousand tals Shanghai sycee." Under this charterparty, the charterers proceeded to load the ship.

On August 25th, the charterers asked for copies of the charterparty. These were made and taken by Mr. John Moller, one of the firm of Moller Brothers, to the house tenanted by Messrs. Schwartz and Zimmermann where, at Mr. Zimmermann's request, the clause for indemnification from accident of war quoted above was stricken out of the duplicates under promise of Mr. Zimmermann that a separate agreement would be given to cover the same undertaking.

Under this charterparty, Mexican Dollars ten thousand were paid to Moller Brothers and the bark sailed from Shanghai on August 27th and proceeded on her voyage until September 10th 1904, when she was made a total loss by a mine or torpedo. Demand was made for Tls. 16,000 and Mr. Zimmermann offered to pay Tls. 9,000, which was refused by Moller Brothers, who brought suit for Tls. 16,000 against S. E. Schwartz and S. Zimmermann, to which Mr. Zimmermann made separate answer and defence. No service has been had on Schwartz, who is understood to have left Shanghai.

As the action centres around the charterparties of August 20th and August 25th, the closest scrutiny of their terms and of the differences between the two must be made.

1.—The charterparty of August 20th has in it the indemnifying clause first above quoted. The charterparty of August 25th has the said indemnifying clause written in but crossed out by red lines admittedly made by John Moller, who signed the document dated August 25th.

2.—Both charterparties are made throughout as for "S. E. Schwartz & Co.," but are alike signed "S. E. Schwartz." Plaintiff claims the signature is for Schwartz and Zimmermann. Defendant's answer denies this.

1.—It is claimed by the Plaintiffs that the crossed-out clause must be read into the document of August 25th, which would then become a duplicate of the one of August 20th. John Moller testifies that he struck out the clause in question because Zimmermann promised to give him an undertaking to the same effect in a separate document. Defendant does not attempt to deny such promise and Moller's uncontradicted testimony on this point is corroborated by the improbability that the Plaintiffs would give up such a valuable cause without something in lieu thereof, especially after the charterers had accepted the first charterparty and had the vessel almost fully loaded under it; and by the admitted fact that Schwartz offered later to Moller Brothers an undertaking to pay compensation in case of detention or destruction of the vessel by the Russian authorities. This latter named document was refused, as both the Mollers testify uncontradicted, as not equivalent to the elided clause and not an agreed-to complete the contract. Under the above uncontradicted testimony as to the intention of the contracting parties, the elided clause must be considered a part of the contract and the contract of 25th Aug. becomes identical with that of 20th Aug. and the charterers become responsible

for the sum promised in payment should the vessel be lost by accident of war.

2.—No rule of law is plainer than that the written terms of a legal contract are binding and final on the contracting parties. In this case the difficulty has been to discover who are the real contracting parties; whose were the consenting minds represented by "S. E. Schwartz" and "Moller Brothers." As to the plaintiff, no question has at any time arisen, but plaintiffs contend that "S. E. Schwartz" stands for and binds both S. E. Schwartz and S. Zimmermann. It is permitted to seek light from the evidence and surrounding facts as to whether Zimmermann so acted as to justify Moller Brothers in believing that he had given Schwartz the authority to so sign. It is a rule of the common law that a person may be authorised by parole to make and sign contracts in writing (Parsons, Book I, sect. 47) and the principal will be bound by the acts of the agent if within his knowledge and not disavowed "promptly" or "in a reasonable time." Such signature may be ratified by such an act of the principal as "will justify third parties who are interested in the question, in believing that it was a ratification." The cases are conflicting as to whether an unnamed principal can be sued. In this case, however, the principal is charged to be S. E. Schwartz & Co., named in the body of the various charterparties and claimed to be S. E. Schwartz and S. Zimmermann.

On the point as to who were the real parties whose minds consented to making this contract, several circumstances corroborate the testimony of the Mollers, which is uncontradicted and hence must stand unless the surrounding circumstances cause disbelief in the minds of the Court.

(a) The charterparties prepared by Moller Brothers are all filled in as for "S. E. Schwartz & Co." and "their agent or agents." The separate guarantee of August 27th offered by Schwartz to Moller Brothers is headed "Between S. E. Schwartz & Co., Charterers, and Moller Brothers, Agents of Lucia;" and the plural firms "S. E. Schwartz & Co." and "Charterers" are used throughout that document.

(b) John Moller testifies that Zimmermann said that he would charter the ship. E. Moller testifies that "they (Schwartz and Zimmermann) proposed to charter the Lucia."

(c) Both Mollers testify that the first charterparty was signed in Zimmermann's presence, and that it was fully discussed with him. E. Moller testifies that Zimmermann, whom he had also known as "Jacobs," asked to have the contract in the name of Schwartz as "he (Zimmermann) did not wish to be known in the transaction" and that Zimmermann told Schwartz to sign the charterparty but declined to sign himself but said "you can trust me in this business" and that Schwartz excused Zimmermann from signing by saying that he (Zimmermann) was too ill to write, i.e. knew no little English.

(d) John Moller testifies that Schwartz translated the charterparty of August 25th to Zimmermann who, he says, told Schwartz to sign it as he (Zimmermann) did not understand English.

(e) Both Mollers testify that throughout the transaction Zimmermann was the man who decided the various points of the contract and John Moller testifies that he knew Schwartz not long ago as bill collector of a local hotel. It is in the records of this Court that Schwartz about two years ago was a runner for a hotel in Shanghai. This is an honorable calling but not one which gives credit in large commercial transactions unless another party is considered as principal.

(f) The Mollers testify that the claim for indemnification for the loss of the "Lucia" was first made to Zimmermann and Schwartz and that Zimmermann offered

to pay Tls. 9,000 as in full settlement which offer was refused.

The testimony of J. and E. Moller must be considered under the fact that they are interested parties. It is the opinion of the Court, taking into account their general reputation, their manner on the witness stand, and the corroborating circumstances and documents, that their uncontradicted testimony is worthy of credence; and that all the facts taken together establish the claim that "S. E. Schwartz" is signed for and must bind S. E. Schwartz and Zimmermann, and S. Zimmermann is liable to a creditor for the debt of the partnership.

I therefore adjudge that S. Zimmermann pay to Moller Brothers Tals Sixteen thousand Shanghai Sycee with interest at the rate of six per cent per annum from Sept. 21st 1904 to the date of this judgment and the Court costs of this action. Signed Dec. 15, 1904.

(L.S.)

JOHN GOODNOW,
American Consul-General,
Acting Judicially.

Assented to
JOHN C. FERGUSON, } Associates.
MURRAY WARNER, }

INQUEST.

Shanghai, 15th December.

Before H. PHILLIPS, Esq., Coroner, and Messrs T. L. BICKERTON, T. MARTINDALE, and WILLIAM PREW, Jurors.

RE DEATH OF ALFRED WHOOLEY.

An inquest was opened at the Old Dock in the afternoon to enquire into the circumstances attending the death of Alfred Whooley, a winchman of the dredger St Dunstan, who was drowned at the entrance to the dock on the 14th inst.

The Jury viewed the body.

Thomas Morgan, sworn, said he was the master of the St. Dunstan. The body which had just been viewed was that of Alfred Whooley, who was one of his crew.

Doctor E. L. Marsh said that he had just seen the body of deceased, who was dressed in sailor's clothes. The clothes and the appearance of the body showed that it had been recently immersed in the water. There was also evidence of a fracture at the base of the skull, with bleeding from the left ear. Death was due to drowning whilst in an unconscious state, the result of a fall against some solid object in the water.

By a juror—Witness did not think that the wound could have been caused by a blow, not a fracture of the skull of this description.

The inquest was adjourned until 10.30 next morning at the British Police Court.

PASSENGERS.

OUTWARD.

Per str. TAIWAN.—For Hongkong—Mrs. Bell, Messrs. David Kerr and Macheson. For Canton—Mrs. Jones.

Per str. KIANGYUNG.—For Hankow—Mr. H. F. Knott.

Per str. MEIFOO.—For Hongkong—Mr. G. M. Jones, Jr.

Per str. PERIN.—For Ningpo—Messrs. G. Shuin and J. Takachi.

Per str. TATUNG.—For Chinkiang—Mr. T. A. Ross.

For Hankow—Messrs. W. A. Turnbull and Ontagen.

INWARD.

Per str. **KINGSING**.—From Taku Bar and Chefoo—Miss Biddulph, and Mr. de Linde.

Per str. **SINGAN**.—From Chefoo—Miss Aplin, and Mr. Murray. From Weihaiwei—Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Wall and child.

Per str. **KUTWO**.—From Hankow and Ports—Mrs. Waley, and Miss Devitt.

Per str. **HANYANG**.—From Amoy—Mr. Gardiner.

Per str. **HSINCHI**.—From Ningpo—Messrs. Webb and Nicholl.

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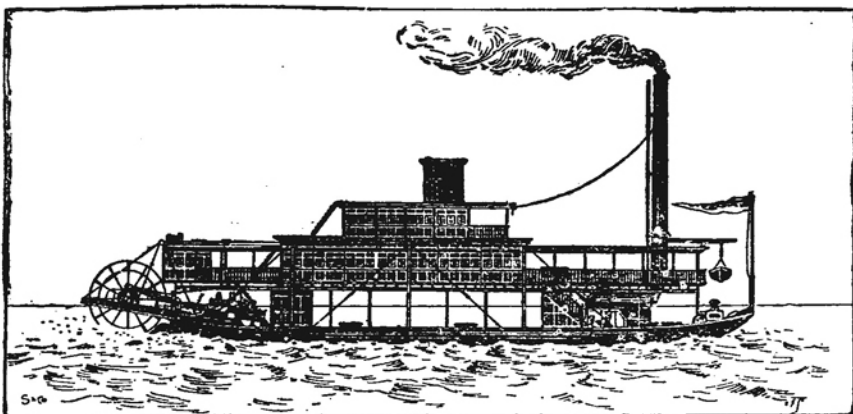
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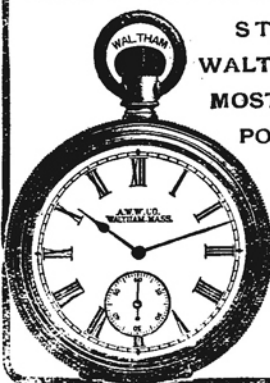
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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

Tea.—From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular of 12th December:—

Our last Tea Market advices were dated 28th ult.

BLACK TEAS.—Market closed.

Total settlements for season 54,831 half-chests against 81,681 half-chests, last year.

GREEN TEAS.—*Pingsueys.*—A small business has been done at previous rates. Common Teas are weak and Teamen would be willing sellers at a small decline, but at present no enquiry exists for this grade.

COUNTRY TEAS.—There are about 1,000 half-chests of coarse liquoring Moyune on the market and nos further supply of any bulk is expected.

Local Packs and Fychows.—About 4,000 half-chests are left on the market, but being of coarse quality will no attract buyers unless at low prices.

Foong Mees and Sou Mees.—The market has been cleared of Foong Mees, there are about 400 half-chest of Sou Mees which the Teamen are holding for a demand.

Settlements since the 28th ult:—

Pingsuey	2,408	half-chests	@	Tls. 20½ to 29	per picul.
Moyune	3,878	"	@	" 18 to 30½	"
Tienkai	1,576	"	@	" 20½ to 27½	"
Fychow	1,292	"	@	" 14¼ to 16	"
Local Packed	942	"	@	" 12 to 24¼	"

10,096

Total settlements since opening of market to date:—

	1904. Settlements. half-chests.	1903. Settlements. half-chests.	1904. Stock. half-chests.	1903. Stock. half-chests.
Pingsuey	138,425	206,977	32,100	2,963
Moyune	69,928	74,874		
Tienkai	70,143	68,992	3,000	997
Fychow	31,089	36,407		
Local Packed and Wenchow..	39,170	51,169	2,976	
Total	348,755	438,419	38,076	7,139

Settlements of Hyson and Young Hyson since opening of market to date:—

	1904.		1903.
Arrivals	140,321 half-chests.		191,858 half-chests.
Settlements	138,913	@ Tls. 12-90 p. picul	183,665
Stock	1,408	"	8,193

EXPORT OF TEA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Black. lbs.	Dust. lbs.	Green. lbs.
From commencement of Season to 18th November.....	25,473,878	574,927	2,330,136
Cleared on 14th Nov., per s.s. <i>Simla</i>			84,533
" 2nd Dec., s.s. <i>Ceylon</i>	133		60,933
" 3rd " s.s. <i>Telemachus</i>			172,667
Total to date, 1904.....	25,474,011	574,927	2,648,269
Do. 1903.....	8,497,680		5,002,472
Do. 1902.....	6,005,814		3,777,539

EXPORT OF TEA TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	Black. lbs.	Green. lbs.
From commencement of Season to 22nd November, 1904	6,799,731	15,179,402
Cleared on 24th November, per s.s. <i>Senegambia</i> for Yokohama trans. U.S.A. ....	.....	41,867
" 28th " " <i>Saint Hugo</i> " New York	62,800	733,733
" 1st December, " <i>Setsdon</i> " New York .....	.....	242,000
" 2nd " " <i>America Maru</i> " Kansas City .....	.....	24,933
" 2nd " " <i>Breis Izel</i> " New York .....	.....	241,467
Total to date, 1904.....	6,862,531	16,463,402
Do. 1903.....	6,545,641	20,275,847
Do. 1902.....	10,322,962	16,810,573

EXPORT OF TEA TO OTHER EUROPEAN PORTS.

	Black. lbs.	Brick. lbs.	Green. lbs.
From commencement of Season to 18th November	20,389,027	4,422,532	1,580,802
Cleared on 26th Nov., per s.s. <i>Segovia</i> for Hamburg .....	.....	.....	3,067
" 28th " " <i>Simla</i> " Alexandria .....	.....	.....	9,733
" 2nd Dec., " <i>Preussen</i> " Suez.....	.....	2,000	.....
" " " " Hamburg.....	.....	.....	31,067
Total to date, 1904	20,389,027	4,424,532	1,624,669
Do. 1903	2,701,833	.....	1,742,335
Do. 1902	1,851,101	.....	1,149,997

EXPORT OF TEA DIRECT TO RUSSIA.

	Black. lbs.	Brick. lbs.
From commencement of Season to 8th November, 1904.....	854,667	1,049,467
Cleared on 2nd December, per s.s. <i>Preussen</i> for St. Petersburg	133	.....
Total to date, 1904.....	854,800	1,049,467
do. 1903.....	12,388,860	.....
do. 1902.....	18,862,521	.....

EXPORT OF TEA TO BOMBAY AND OTHER PORTS.

	Black. lbs.	Green. lbs.
From commencement of Season to 14th December, 1904	77,067	643,067
No tea exported since .....	.....	.....
Total to date, 1904.....	77,067	643,067
Do. 1903.....	166,003	1,273,801
Do. 1902.....	79,031	1,078,168

EXPORT OF GREEN TEA TO BATOUM AND NOVOROSSISK, &c.

	Green. lbs.
From commencement of Season to 22nd November	7,191,198
Cleared on 26th November, per s.s. <i>Segovia</i>	365,867
" 3rd December " <i>Telemachus</i>	84,267
Total to date, 1904	7,641,332
Do. 1903	12,259,866
Do. 1902	9,053,974

EXPORT OF TEA TO RUSSIAN MANCHURIA VIA PORT ARTHUR, NEWCHWANG AND TIENTSIN.

	Black. lbs.	Brick. lbs.	Green. lbs.	Dust. lbs.
Total to date, 1904.....	3,438,669	32,814,011	184,268	241,234
Do. 1903.....	32,538,634	34,943,601	2,031,321	147,333
Do. 1902.....	39,778,618	5,496,670	2,405,387	957,628

FREIGHT.—For London.—45/- per ton of 40 c. ft.; per s.s. *Nubia*, on 13th inst.; *Manica*, on 13th inst. *Diomea*, 15th inst.; s.s. *Candia*, on or about 17th inst.
For New York via Suez.—30/- per ton of 40 c. ft.; per s.s. *Shimosa*, on 22nd inst.; *Claverdale*, on or about 20th prox.
Per Mail Steamer and Overland.—1¼ cents (gold) per lb. gross; per s.s. *Empress of Japan*, on 17th inst.

EXCHANGE closes at 2/8½ for 4 m/s. Documents on London.
" 67 for 4 m/s. Credits on New York.

T.E.A.—HANKOW STATISTICS from the Hankow General Chamber of Commerce Circular of the 7th December, 1904.

EXPORTS.

The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for Export :—

Cowhides, B. S.	Tls. 35.00	per picul.	Gallnuts, plum shape	Tls. 17.50	per picul.
Seconds	31.00	"	Tobacco, Tingchow	(nominal)	18.50
Buffalo hides, B.S.	19.00	"	" Wongkong	"	"
" 10/35 lbs.	"	"	Black Bristles, Riffing 2 1/2" 2 3/4" 3" 3 1/4" 3 1/2"	"	"
" 35/60 "	"	"	10 10 10 10 10	"	"
Goatskins, Untanned, chiefly white colour, average 2-lbs., 50% short, 30% med. & 20% long hair; Season over.			3 1/2" 4" 4 1/2" 4 3/4" 5" 5 1/4" 5 1/2" 5 3/4" 6"	100% =	120.00
Buffalo Horns, average 3-lbs. each	Tls. 57.00	"	Feathers, Grey and/or White Duck	"	21.50
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi ..	9.00	"	" Wild Duck	"	24.90
" Sinshan and/or Chaya	11.20	"	Turmeric	"	3.00
Green China Grass, Szechuen	"	"	Sesamum Seed, white	"	"
Jute	9.80	"	" yellow	"	4.00
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	4.50	"	" red	"	"
" Pingchow and/or Macheng	10.40	"	" black	"	"
" Mongyu...(out of season)	10.20	"	Sesamum Seed-Oil	"	7.90
Green " Kiyu	9.00	"	Vegetable Tallow Seed-Oil	"	7.90
Animal Tallow	"	"	Wood Oil	"	7.30
Gallnuts, Usual shape	9.20	"	Tea Oil	"	9.00

I. M. Customs returns of Shipments.

COWHIDES.	BUFFALO HIDES.	GOATSKINS UNTANNED.	ANIMAL TALLOW.	VEGETABLE TALLOW.	NUTGALLS.	BRISTLES.	SESAMUM SEED.	WOOD OIL.
Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	P wls.
134,192.00	24,601.00	2,524,113	14,415.00	169,970.00	34,174.00	9,701.00	507,932.00	285,635.00
2,478.00	971.00	600	187.00	5,557.00	869.00	—	29,997.00	6,164.00
136,670.00	25,572.00	2,524,713	14,602.00	174,527.00	35,043.00	9,701.00	537,929.00	391,819.00

For last Circular. For week ending Saturday, the 3rd inst. From January 1st to 3rd inst.

KEROSENE.

QUOTATIONS.—Ex Godown—American "Devoes" in cases	Tls. 2.05
" "Eagle" in tins	1.75
" "Eagle" in bulk	1.45
Russian "Anchor" in cases	1.88
Russian "Horse" in cases	1.83
Sumatra bulk in tins	1.76
" in bulk	1.46

IMPORTS.

During the week ending Saturday the 3rd instant inclusive, as per Custom House returns are :—

American	20,100	Gallons
Russian	800	"
Sumatra	—	"
Total...	20,900	"

FREIGHTS:—

Per Conference Steamers to London and Northern Continental ports ;	
Via Shanghai	46/- " plus River Freight.
Per Coonference Steamers to Genoa, Marseille or Havre ;	
Via Shanghai. Tea and General Cargo	41/6 " "
To New York. Overland, ...	Tea G. \$ 1 1/2 cents per lb. gross " "
" via Suez, Tea and General Cargo 35/- per ton.	" "
To Shanghai ; Tea and General Cargo Tael 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.	

Exchange.—(Closing Rates)—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 2s. 8 1/2d. Bank Bills demand, 2s. 8 1/2d. Bank Bills, 4 months sight, 2s. 8 1/2d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 2s. 9 1/2d.; 6 months' sight, 2s. 9 1/2d. Privates and Documentary 4 months' sight, 2s. 9 1/2d.; 6 months' sight, 2s. 9 1/2d. On France—Bank Bills, Transfer, Fcs. 3.41. Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 3.48; 6 months' sight, 3.50. On Germany—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, Marks 2.76 1/2, lowest 2.79 1/2, highest 2.83. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, per Tls. 100, Gold \$37 1/2, lowest 67 1/2, highest 67 1/2. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, per \$100, Tls. 71 1/2, lowest 71 1/2, highest 71 1/2. On Yokohama—Telegraphic Transfers, per Yen 100, Tls. 75 1/2, lowest 75 1/2, highest 74 1/2. On Bombay and Calcutta—Telegraphic Transfers, per Tls. 100, Rs. 202, lowest 199 1/2, highest 202 1/2. Bank Bills demand, per Tls. 100, Rs. 202 1/2, lowest 199 1/2, highest 203 1/2. Gold Bars, Shanghai, 93 touch, per Tls. 10, Tls. 362, lowest 361, highest 367. Silver Bars, per Tls. 100, Tls. 111.26, lowest 111.26, highest 111.26. Mexican Dollars, per \$100, Tls. 74.7, lowest 73.9, highest 74.7. Copper Cash, per Tls. 1,155, lowest 1,155, highest 1,155. Chinese Interest, Marcos 3.00, lowest 2.00, highest 4.00. Bar Silver in London, per oz., 27 1/2, lowest 27 1/2, highest 28.

	Bar Silver per oz in L'don.	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		GER- MANY.	NEW YORK.	HONG KONG.	YOKO- HAMA.	INDIA.
		T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.							4 m/s. Docty. Priv. 4 m/s.
Dec.		Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.					
9th	27½	2.8½	2.8¾	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	3.43/3.45	3.43½/3.45½	2.79½	67	71½	75½/75½	199½/199½
10th	27½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	3.43/3.45	3.43½/3.45½	2.79½	67	71½	75½	199½/199½
12th	27½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	3.43/3.45	3.43½/3.45½	2.79½	67	71½	75½	199½/199½
13th	27½	2.8½	2.8¾	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	3.44½/3.46½	3.44½/3.46½	2.8½	67½	71½	7½/199½	199½/200½
14th	28	2.8½	2.8¾	2.8½	2.8½	2.9½	2.9½	2.9½	2.9½	3.48/3.50	3.48/3.50	2.83	67½	71½	75½/201½	201½/201½
15th	28	2.8½	2.8¾	2.8½	2.8½	2.9	2.9½	2.9½	2.9½	3.47½/3.49½	3.48/3.50	2.83	67½	71½	75	202½/202½
16th	27½	2.8½	2.8¾	2.8½	2.8½	2.9	2.9½	2.9½	2.9½	3.47½/3.49½	3.48/3.50	2.83	67½	71½	75½	202½/202½

	Position per last Report	Last Dividend, etc.	Closing
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LOANS.		Amount of Loan	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.
Shanghai Municipal Debentures, 1892.....	T50,000.00	T50,000.00	T100.00	5%	Jan & Dec.	
Do, 1893.....	T125,000.00	T50,000.00	T100.00	5%	Do.	
Do, 1894.....	T105,000.00	T50,000.00	T100.00	5%	Do.	
Do, 1895.....	T115,000.00	T115,000.00	T100.00	5%	Do.	
Do, 1896.....	T140,000.00	T140,000.00	T100.00	5%	Do.	
Do, 1897.....	T285,500.00	T285,500.00	T100.00	5%	Do.	
Do, 1898.....	T350,500.00	T127,500.00	T100.00	6%	Do.	
Do, 1899.....	T35,900.00	T35,900.00	T100.00	5 1/4%	Do.	
Do, 1900.....	T250,000.00	T200,000.00	T100.00	6%	Do.	
Do, 1901.....	T150,000.00	T150,000.00	T100.00	6%	Do.	
Do, 1902.....	T450,500.00	T450,500.00	T100.00	6 1/2%	Do.	
Do, 1903.....	T767,200.00	T254,000.00	T254.00	7%	Mar. & Sept.	
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1898 &c	T250,000.00	T250,000.00	T100.00	6%	May & Nov.	
Shanghai Land Investment Co. Debentures,				5 1/4%	June & Dec.	
Do, 1892.....	T250,000.00	T250,000.00	T100.00	6%	Mar. & Sept.	
Do, 1894.....	T250,000.00	T250,000.00	T100.00	6%	June & Dec.	
Do, 1896.....	T250,000.00	T250,000.00	T100.00	6%	April & Oct.	
Do, 1900.....	T250,000.00	T250,000.00	T100.00	6%	June & Dec.	
Do, 1901.....	T250,000.00	T250,000.00	T100.00	6%	May & Nov.	
Do, 1901.....	T100,000.00	T490,000.00	T100.00	6%	June & Dec.	
Do, 1902.....	T400,000.00	T100,000.00	T100.00	6%	Mar. & Sept.	
Shanghai Waterworks Co. Debentures, 1894.....	T100,000.00	T100,000.00	T100.00	6%	June & Dec.	
Do, 1895.....	T50,000.00	T50,000.00	T100.00	6%	Do.	
Do, 1898.....	T50,000.00	T50,000.00	T100.00	6%	Mar. & Sept.	
Do, 1900.....	T100,000.00	T100,000.00	T100.00	6%	Do.	
Do, 1902.....	T41,200.00	T41,200.00	T100.00	6%	Do.	
Do, 1903.....	T200,000.00	T200,000.00	T100.00	7%	April & Oct.	
Persia Sugar Cultivation Co. Debentures, 1902.....	T100,000.00	T100,000.00	T100.00	6%	June & Nov.	
Shanghai Gas Co. Debentures, 1897.....	T195,000.00	T195,000.00	T100.00	6%	May & Dec.	
Do, 1899.....	T110,000.00	T110,000.00	T100.00	6%	June & Dec.	
Do, 1900.....	T14,000.00	T45,000.00	T100.00	6%	June & Dec.	
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Co. Debentures, 1902.....	T500,000.00	T500,000.00	T111.99	6 1/2%	Do.	
Atchafalpa House Hotel Co. Debentures.....	T500,000.00	T500,000.00		6%		

I. P. BISSET & Co
Sole Agents

SHIPPING IN HARBOUR AND AT WOOSUNG

MERCHANT STEAMERS.

No. & Sec.	Ship's Name	Commander.	Flag & Rig.	Ton-nage	Date of Arrival	Where from	Consignees or Agents	Destination	Remark
YKDW	Activ	Olsen	Nor str	86	Dec 13	Japan	M. B. Kaisha	Japan	To-day
-HW	Algoa	Zeeder	Br str	4897	Dec 13	Shimonoseki	Fearen, Daniel & Co		
9 p	Anna	Olsen	Nor str	774	Dec 11	Moji	Moller Brothers		
P & OB	Beugal	Phillip	Br str	2725	Dec 6	Hongkong, &c	P. & O. S. N. Co		
W'sung	Candia	Kitcat	Br str	4195	Dec 11	Japan	P. & O. S. N. Co		
MOCKFW	Carl Menzell		Ger str		Dec 11		Diederichsen, Jebesen & Co	Chinkiang	To-day
U M C W	Chingping	Harvey	Br str	1062	Dec 11	Chinwangtao	Chinese Eng. & Mining Co	Tientsin & C'ao	To-day
W'su g	Eva	Eberhardt	Ger str	2084	Dec 1	Moji	Diederichsen, Jebesen & Co	Astora	To-day
P W E	Diomed	Young	Br str	300	Dec 12	Kobe	Butterfield & Swire	London, etc	To-day
T K D D	Fungshan	Gillespie	Ch str	831	Nov 13	Foochow	C. M. S. N. Co	Amoy	17th instant
M LW	Ghazee	Bailey	Br str	3242	Dec 14	Liverpool	Dodwell & Co., Ltd		
K L Y W	Hsiehho	Crawford	Chi str	1000	Dec 14	Tangku & Chefoo	C. M. S. N. Co	Hongkong & C'ao	17th in tant
B J	Kalga	Speec	Br str	1143	Dec 13	K'ow, C'foo, T'sin	Butterfield & Swire		
4 c	Kalibia	Walker	Br str	3149	Nov 28	New York	Standard Oil Co		
K L Y W	Kiangyung	Johnston	Chi str	1451	Dec 14	Hankow	C. M. S. N. Co	Hankow & Ports	To-day
8 p	Kniaberg	Kayser	Ger str	646	Dec 11	Kiaochow	Melchers & Co	K'ow, C'foo, C'ao	17th instant
K L Y W	Kwangchi	Gordon	Chi str	350	Dec 2	Tientsin	C. M. S. N. Co		
SHW	Kwongang	Lake	Br str	1428	Dec 14	Hongkong	Jardine, Matheson & Co		
8 p	Loden	Meyer	Nor str	757	Dec 10	Vladivostok	Moller Brothers	Japan	To-day
C M C W	Lycemoon	Lehmann	Ger str	1238	Dec 12	Hongkong	Siemssen & Co	Hongkong & C'ao	To-day
K L Y W	Meefoo	Whitelaw	Chi str	1321	Dec 14	H'kong & Canton	C. M. S. N. Co	Hongkong & C'ao	To-day
AUS	Meiyu	Riese	Ger str	1001	Nov 27	Hankow	Melchers & Co		
P & OB	Melita	Prevost	Fr str	200	Dec 13	Chemulpo	Siemssen & Co		
SHW	Moynue	Campbell	Br str	3016	Dec 12	Liverpool etc	Butterfield & Swire	Japan	To-day
S O C W	Nigretia	Harrison	Br str	2530	Dec 8	Kobe	Moller Brothers	Vladivostok	To-day
8 c	Pacific	Swenson	Dan str	728	Nov 29	Cruise	C. N. Tel. Co		
H W	Pechili	McClure	Br str	881	Dec 8	Swatow	Jardine, Matheson & Co		
T K D W	Pishui		Br str	162	Feb 5	Wuhu	S. C. Farham, Boyd & Co		
O W S B	Seneca	Crimes	Br str	3171	Dec 12	Singapore	Standard Oil Co		
L S	Senegambia	Laburg	Ger str	2460	Dec 12	Japan	Siemssen & Co		
L S	Sishan	Stringer	Br str	845	Dec 4	Chefoo	L. Spitzel & Co		
8 c	Store Nordisk	Petersen	Dan str	596	Nov 27	Cruise	G. N. Tel. Co		
O N W	Suian	Calender	Ger str	1145	Dec 2	Hankow	Arnhold, Karberg & Co	Hankow & Ports	To-day
L S	Szechuen	Sidford	Br str	1128	Dec 2	Tientsin v. Chefoo	Butterfield & Swire		
O D	Taihung Maru		Jan str	1391	Feb 5	Hankow	Osaka Shosen Kaisha		
CMB	Taiping	Robb	Br str	1374	Nov 22	Chefoo	Horatio Robertson		
Cos D	Taishun	Jamieson	Chi str	1216	Nov 29	Chefoo	C. M. S. N. Co		
C A P W	Taiwan	Harder	Br str	1109	Dec 11	Hongkong	Butterfield & Swire	H'kong & Canton	To-day
OSKW	Talee Maru	Yebina	Jap str	1315	Dec 13	Hankow	Osaka Shoen Kaisha	Hankow & Ports	To-day
9 p	Tellus	Arutzen	Nor str	1612	Nov 25	Muroran	Saethlaga & Co		
C N C W	Tientsin	Gibbs	Br str	1250	Dec 8	Amoy & Swatow	Butterfield & Swire		
YWG W	Tjipanas	Zwart	Dut str	2444	Dec 11	Hongkong	Holland China Trading Co	Japan	To-day
C N F W	Wenchow	Pukett	Br str	580	Dec 12	Amoy	Butterfield & Swire		
	43 Steamers								
H S	Brutus		US tran		Dec 5	Hongkong			

MERCHANT SAILING VESSELS

No. & Sec.	Ship's Name	Commander	Flag & Rig.	Ton-nage	Date of Arrival	Where from	Consignees or Agents	Destination	Remark
NSOCW	Atlas	McKay	Am s.v.	3006	Dec 7	New York	Standard Oil Co		
S O C W	Comet	Davis	Br s.v.	2890	Dec 9	New York	Standard Oil Co		
L S	Contest	Inokay	Br s.v.	486	Nov 21	Tientsin	Moller Brothers		
9 p	Inca	Rasmussen	Am s.v.	902	Nov 24	Portland	C. & J. Trading Co		
	4 Vessels								

MEN-OF-WAR IN HARBOUR

No. & Sec	Name	Commander	Flag & Rating	Ton-nage	Guns	H. P.	Men	Date Arrival	Where from
OSKW	Andromeda		H.M. cruiser	11000	16	16500	600	Dec 5	Weihaiwei
EACW	Askold	Grammatikoff	Russ cruiser	6100	12	24000	500	Aug 13	Port Arthur
EACW	Grosovoi		Russ t.-d.	300	.....	5000	.....	Aug 12	Port Arthur
B N B	Iphigenia	Fawckner	H.M. cruiser	3600	8	9000	273	Aug 23	Nanking
OSN B	Jaguar	Willbrandt	H.L.G.M. gun-boat	900	8	1300	110	Dec 14	Chemulpo
CMB	Kersaint	Simon	Fr. gun-boat	1243	6	2200	.....	Dec 8	Chemulpo
EACW	Landjour		Russ gun-boat	1416	3	1400	.....	Dec 12	Port Arthur
O D B	Monadnock	Baker	U.S. monitor	4000	16	8000	200	Dec 8	Hankow
N G L B	Seeadler		H.L.G.M. cruiser	1640	8	2800	156	Oct 3	Tsingtao
1 c	Surprise	Roque	Fr. gun-boat	627	6	853	99	Nov 19	Hankow
1 c	Thetis	Dick	H.L.G.M. cruiser	2665	10	8000	240	Dec 13	Chinkiang
3 p	Widgeon	Secretan	H.M. gun-boat	.....	6	.....	30		